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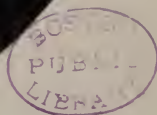
THIS book is not published for general circulation, but for the benefit of the immediate descendants of Edward and Mary Wells, as a token of my love.

It has been suggested that the descendants of Thomas Wells of Ipswich would like some one with whom to file information.

I will receive and file, for the benefit of all, any information sent me, requesting that the writer use one side of the sheet, and leave a wide margin on the right-hand side of the same.

FRANK WELLS,
PUBLISHER,
19 Groveland Park, CHICAGO, ILL.

THE ANCESTRY OF
EDWARD WELLS OF QUINCY, ILLINOIS
WITH A SKETCH OF HIS LIFE



Yours truly E. Wells

THE ANCESTRY
OF
Edward Wells of Quincy
Illinois

With a Sketch of His Life

BY
LUCY ELIZABETH WOODWELL



CHICAGO
PUBLISHED BY FRANK WELLS
1900

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Mrs. Frank Wells
Sept. 5, 1900.

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6/I/41 R.R.P.
“Those who do not treasure up the memory of their ancestors do not deserve to be remembered by posterity.”

EDMUND BURKE

“Remember the days of old. Consider the years of many generations.”

DEUT. xxxii, 7

“And the glory of children are their fathers.”

PROV. xvii, 6

“And let my name be named on them, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac.”

GEN. xlviii, 16

CONTENTS

CHAPTER		PAGE
I.	FIRST FOUNDER OF THE DE WELLES FAMILY IN ENGLAND - - - - -	1
II.	SECOND FOUNDER - - - - -	7
III.	THIRD FOUNDER - - - - -	9
IV.	THE SONS OF DE VAUX - - - - -	11
V.	THE LINCOLNSHIRE BRANCH - - - - -	13
VI.	THE ESSEX BRANCH - - - - -	17
VII.	FOUNDERS IN AMERICA - - - - -	21
VIII.	THOMAS WELLS - - - - -	27
IX.	CHILDREN OF THOMAS WELLS - - - - -	48
X.	CHILDREN OF NATHANIEL WELLS - - - - -	55
XI.	CHILDREN OF THE SECOND NATHANIEL - - - - -	57
XII.	CHILDREN OF DANIEL WELLS - - - - -	70
XIII.	CHILDREN OF THE SECOND DANIEL - - - - -	75
XIV.	SAMUEL WILLIAMS WELLS - - - - -	81
XV.	THE SWASEYS - - - - -	90
XVI.	THE FULFORDS - - - - -	109
XVII.	JOHN FULFORD - - - - -	129
XVIII.	CHILDREN OF SAMUEL WILLIAMS WELLS - - - - -	149
XIX.	EDWARD AND MARY WELLS - - - - -	160
XX.	CHILDREN OF EDWARD AND MARY WELLS - - - - -	20

PREFACE

This volume is written at the request of Frank Wells, of Chicago, youngest son of Edward Wells, of Quincy, Illinois. The facts of the opening chapters are culled from the "History of the Welles Family in England and Normandy," by Albert Welles, of New York, and the chapters on Thomas Wells and his immediate descendants are made up from the volumes of the "New England Historical and Genealogical Register," Felt's quaint history of the town of Ipswich, Massachusetts, and ancient records and manuscripts found in the public library of that place.

The connection of Daniel Wells with the First Presbyterian Church of Newburyport is found in the various histories of that city, and much of the remainder of the book is a record of what the writer's mother recalls concerning her immediate ancestors and family connections.

The writer is indebted to Mrs. Charlotte Smith Tucker and Mrs. Sarah Smith Loughton, of Portsmouth, and Mr. Benjamin F. Swasey, of Exeter, New Hampshire, for facts relating to Elizabeth

Fulford and the Swaseys, and owes the facts of the sixteenth and seventeenth chapters in some degree to the kindness of Mr. Alexander Mitchell Fulford, of Bel Air, Maryland, but largely to the indefatigable labors of Mr. Albert Alonzo Folsom, of Brookline, Massachusetts. The thanks of the writer are also due the sons and daughters of Edward and Mary Wells for their assistance in the preparation of chapter nineteen, which is the writer's loving tribute to the memory of two to whose generosity she owes many pleasant times and innumerable good things.

LUCY ELIZABETH WOODWELL.

47 Monmouth St.,
East Boston, Mass.

THE ANCESTRY AND FAMILY
OF
EDWARD WELLS OF QUINCY, ILLINOIS

CHAPTER I

FIRST FOUNDER IN ENGLAND

The founders of the De Welles family in England were three men who entered the island kingdom, two of them with William the Conqueror, and the third some fifty years later, in the reign of Henry I, the scholar king. Of these, Richardus de Ouille or Welles, born about 1030, was one of the Norman knights who crossed the channel in 1066, and fought in the battle of Hastings.

William the Conqueror, having promised his followers the plunder of England, including the lands and manors of the Saxon earls and thanes, gave Richardus de Ouille a manor in Dorsetshire, which was from that time called the Manor of Welles. Most of the estates were held by a prescribed amount of military service to the overlord or king, but Richardus de Welles, by virtue of a

knightly deed on the battlefield of Hastings, held his by the singular tenure of a loaf of barley bread being presented annually to the king. The story is told in the following rude old ballad, dug out of the musty monkish legends of later, yet still early times:

THE BAKER BARON

I

In England's iron time of old,
The King,—midst knights and barons bold,
And ladies, decked with gems and gold,
 And many a gallant lord,—
In Windsor's town and castle hold,
 Sat at the festive board.

II

Around the walls hung sword and spear,
And shields, well hacked with fight severe.
The table groaned with royal cheer,—
 Boar's head and sirloin brave,
And pastries of the antlered deer,
 And fish, from ocean's wave.

III

The goblets, crowned with rosy wine,
From Tuscan grape or Norman vine,
Or from the sunny banks of Rhine,
 Deeply the Barons quaff;
In joyous mood, all care resign,
 And sing and jest and laugh.

IV

Then spake the King, "My gallants gay,—
Who in the battle's fierce array
Have proved your worth in bloody fray,
In France and Normandy,—
Now list ye all to what I say,
And check your revelry."

V

"At Hastings' field your zeal ye showed;
As through the Saxon ranks ye rode,
The churls like harvest corn ye mowed,
With brave and stalwart band;
And now on ye shall be bestowed
Their Castles and their Land."

VI

"And first 'De Welles,' my gallant peer,—
Nay, shrink not now thy praise to hear,
Whose battle-axe and ready spear
Such daring deeds have done;
I give thee lands in Lincolnshire,
Bravely by valor won."

VII

"When we had won the bloody field,
Thy valor forced our foes to yield,—
With ghastly wounds their fate was sealed,
And the fierce fight was done,—
I saw thee bearing on thy shield
(Which bright and dazzling shone)

VIII

“Some Barley-loaves thy men to feed.
Who, wounded, on the ground did bleed,
Thou savedst them in their utmost need,
As fainting there they lay:
This God-like, charitable deed,
I now with Wealth repay.”

IX

“And as each Gentleman and Knight
Who served me bravely in the fight,
And proved his zeal, and showed his might,
On whom I Lands bestow,
Shall henceforth claim them as a right
For service he shall do.”

X

“So for thy lands in Lincolnshire,
My brave ‘De Welles,’ my valiant peer,
On Christmas-day of every year
In future, shalt thou bring
A barley-loaf upon thy spear,
As ‘Baker to the King.’”

XI

With loud hurrahs the Castle rang;
The banners on the walls they hung;
The trumpets brayed, the Minstrels sang;
De Welles with reverence bowed,
Then lightly on his Charger sprang,
And vanished from the crowd.

XII

Old Grimsby's Castle, grim and gray,—
The scene of many a revel gay,—
Dark woods,—the haunts of elfin fay,—
And smiling meadows fair,
Long owned "De Welles'" lordly sway,
Long claimed "De Welles'" care.

XIII

And still near Alfourd's market town,
This ruined Hall, of old renown,
Which Time's rude hand is crumbling down,
May yet in part be seen,—
This ruined Hall, of old renown,
Now clad with ivy green.

The author of the above is unknown. The following has been added:

Beyond the Atlantic's azure tide,
By many a hardship sorely tried,
The Welles's scattered far and wide
Of this old lineage,
Have little left, save honest pride,
Of their rich heritage.

The writer of this ballad was either misinformed as to the location of the king's gift—the manor granted to Richard de Welles was in Dorsetshire, not Lincolnshire—or purposely made the change to the end of flattering the Lincolnshire family, who were descended from Harold de Vaux, and

were powerful barons long after the Dorsetshire family had become extinct.

The "Doomsday Book," the "Roll of Battel Abbey," and Camden's "Britannia," all mention Richard de Welles, and Burke's "Extinct and Dormant Peerage" gives a long account of the barony and the service by which it was held, but no mention is made of any descendants of the Baker Baron.

CHAPTER II

SECOND FOUNDER

The second founder of the De Welles family in England was Jocelyn de Welles the Fleming, who was also a near friend and companion of William the Conqueror, and accompanied him to England in 1066. He was granted lands in Nottinghamshire, which he held of the king by one knight's fee. From him were descended many famous men, prominent in affairs of church and state, among them four brothers specially distinguished in the reign of King John.

Of these, Hugo de Welles became Bishop of Lincoln and Lord Chancellor of England, and Joscelin de Welles, Bishop of Bath and Wells. Both were men of great power, referred to in the ancient rolls as faithful and well beloved servants of King John, till the day dawned when they saw clearly that no man could be king and lord in England with a total disregard of the rights of other men. Then, with other prelates and barons, having sworn upon the ancient altar at Saint Edmundsbury to withdraw their allegiance from John if he

should resist their claim to just government, they met at Runnymede in 1215, and wrested from the king Magna Charta, the imperishable monument of British freedom. To this famous document were affixed the seals of Hugo and Joscelin de Welles, each surmounted with the bishop's mitre.

A third brother was Simon de Welles, who marched with Richard Cœur de Lion to Palestine, and afterward became Bishop of Welles, and a fourth was Nicholas de Welles, Nuncio to Flanders in the reign of King John.

CHAPTER III

THIRD FOUNDER

But it is not to the first or second founder of the De Welles family in England that the bearers of the name of Wells in America look as the progenitor of their race, but to founder number three, Harold de Vaux, Lord of Vaux in Normandy, who entered England about fifty years after the Conquest. He was a son of one of the most illustrious families known to history. The derivation has been traced to the year 794, from which time the sons and daughters of the name held the highest rank both personally and by royal intermarriages. The name is derived from Vaux in Normandy, a district in which the family was originally seated. As early as 794 a branch is found in Provence, to the members of which a monument bearing the following inscription was erected in the church of Saint Clair, at Naples, in the year 1615.

“This monument is dedicated to the most illustrious family of Vaux, a potent race, decorated with the royal insignia in the kingdom of Vienne and Arles, Prince of Orange. Counts of Geneva, and

great rulers within the sovereignty of Provence, which they frequently subjugated to their dominion by force of arms. They were Emperors of Greece, Despots of Romania, Princes of Achaia, Premier Dukes of the Kingdom of Naples, Princes of Tarento and Altamaro, Dukes of Andrea, Ursino, and Naro, Counts of Ugento and Alexano, Great Constables, Justiciaries, High Chamberlains, and Stewards of the realm under the Kings of the House of Anjou, and Generals of the Papal armies."

Having for religious purposes conferred his lands and castles upon the Abbey of the Holy Trinity at Caen, Harold de Vaux came into England accompanied by his three sons, who wrote their name De Vallibus, and settled in the County of Cumberland. They were Hubert, Ranulph, and Robert, born in Normandy in 1090, 1092, and 1095, respectively.

CHAPTER IV

THE SONS OF DE VAUX

The sons of De Vaux settled in England in the reign of Henry I, the scholar-king, whose rule was stern, but perhaps no sterner than the times demanded. As king he had made himself respected. He was a pleasant companion at times, but no man could withstand the imperious thunder of his voice. He brooked no rivalry, and forgave no insult.

Careless what suffering he caused when his ambition was interested, he oppressed the people with intolerable taxes, but he promoted learning, fostered literature, purified the coinage, and restored the land to complete order. He was called the "Peace of His Country," the "Father of His People," the "Lion of Justice." To such a king went De Vaux and his sons about the year 1120.

When William the Norman divided his conquest among his followers on condition of readiness for military service at the king's call, he gave the whole County of Cumberland to Ranulph de Meschines, one who spurred his horse up the hill behind his lord, and cried, "God help us!" at the battle of

Hastings. In King Stephen's time, when De Vaux and his sons had been in England fifteen years, the son and heir of De Meschines bestowed the Barony of Gillesland, a portion of his holding, on Hubert de Vallibus, eldest son of Harold de Vaux, and Sowarby, Carlatan, and Hadbroughtly, other portions, on Ranulph de Vallibus, second son. At the same time, the third son, Robert de Vallibus, received the Barony of Dalston in Norfolk.

In return for these gifts, as the Dukes of Cumberland and Norfolk had sworn fealty to the king, so did the three barons, progenitors of our race in England, to their overlords. "Hear, my lord," swore the baron, as kneeling bareheaded and without arms, he placed his hands within those of the duke. "I become liege man of yours for life, and limb, and earthly regard, and I will keep faith and loyalty to you and the king for life and death, God help me!" Then the kiss of the duke invested him with his land as a fief, to descend to his heirs forever. Thus came the sons of De Vaux into possession of the fair lands that nourished many generations of their descendants.



Coat Armour of Adam de Welles
Baron, 1299

CHAPTER V

THE LINCOLNSHIRE BRANCH

The De Welles family of Lincolnshire, barons by summons to Parliament, were descended from Robert de Vallibus, youngest son of the Norman De Vaux. Among them were Walter de Welles, Canon of Welles and Nuncio of the Pope in the reign of Edward I, John de Welles, treasurer of the See of Canterbury in the same reign, Adam de Welles, first baron, Constable of the Castle of Rockingham, and Warden of the Forest in the reigns of Edward I and Edward II, and Sir Robert, a stout and valiant commander, general of the Earl of Warwick's Lincolnshire division, in the Lancastrian uprising against Edward IV. The barons and knights of this family followed Edward I into Scotland, led by Edward II and heroically but vainly attempted to repel the mighty charge of De Bruce at Bannockburn, gathered their men at arms around the Black Prince at Crecy and Poitiers, charged with Henry V at Agincourt, took sides some with York, others with Lancaster, in the

War of the Roses, and saluted Richmond as king on Bosworth field.

The family was allied matrimonially with the noblest of the realm, even royalty itself, John, son of Leo, sixth Lord Welles, by Margaret Duchess of Somerset, his second wife, marrying Cecille Plantagenet, second daughter of King Edward IV. Margaret, the third child of Leo by Joane his first wife, married about 1460, Sir Thomas Dymoke of Scrivelsby, Lincolnshire, Champion of the realm.

William the Conqueror, fashioning the court of England after that of Normandy, among other great offices instituted that of King's Champion, and gave the broad lands of Scrivelsby to the Norman baron Marmyon and his heirs forever, on condition of service in that singular capacity. In the ancient records the duties of the office are thus set forth: "Whensoever any King of England is to be crowned, the Lord of Scrivelsby for the time being, or one in his name if he be unable, shall come well assured upon a good war-horse, into the presence of our Lord the King on the day of his Coronation, and shall cause it to be proclaimed, 'That if anyone shall say that our said Lord the King has not a right to his Crown and Kingdom, he is ready to defend with his body the right of the King and Kingdom and the dignity of his Crown against him and all others whatsoever.' " The manor of Scrivels-

by forever, and a silver cup at the coronation, were the rewards of this service.

The officiating Champions who were descended from Lord Welles by the marriage of the Lady Joane with Sir Thomas Dymoke of Scrivelsby, were Sir Robert Dymoke, who officiated at the coronations of Richard III, Henry VII and Henry VIII, Sir Edward at the crownings of Edward VI, Mary, and Elizabeth, a second Sir Edward when James I ascended the throne, Sir Edward of Grebby Hall at the coronation of Charles II, and Welles Dymoke at that of George III. The last mentioned is thus referred to :

“Welles Dymoke, one of the lineal descendants of Lord Welles, at the coronation of George III claimed to be the champion of England, and, dressed in full knight’s armor and mounted on his charger, rode through the entire Westminster Hall, challenging the whole world to dispute the title of the king to his crown and throne, and claiming and receiving his silver cup. Then from the throne returning, he backed his charger out of the hall.”

The last champion was Mr. Henry Lionel Dymoke of Scrivelsby Court, near Horncastle, Lincolnshire. He died unmarried on the twenty-eighth of December, 1875, at the age of forty-two. He was the nineteenth of his line to hold the office. At the coronation of George IV, the Rev. John

Dymoke, Prebendary of Lincoln and Rector of Scrivelsby, the Champion, being prevented by his clerical office from performing the service, was compelled to act by deputy. He appointed his son, the late Sir Henry Dymoke, Bart., who performed the duty, which he did likewise in his own right at the coronation of William IV and Victoria. Mr. Henry Lionel Dymoke was his nephew.

The old Barony of Welles fell into abeyance amongst the descendants of the daughters of Leo, sixth Lord Welles, some of whom are still living.

CHAPTER VI

THE ESSEX BRANCH

But it was not from the youngest son of the Norman De Vaux that the Welles family who emigrated to America in the early part of the seventeenth century were descended nor from Lincolnshire they hailed. They emigrated from Essex, were descendants of Hubert, De Vaux's eldest son, and were cousins of the great Lincolnshire family.

Baron Hubert de Vallibus had two sons, Robert, born in Normandy, about 1115, and William, born in Cumberland soon after his father's arrival in England in 1120. Of Robert, the elder, who succeeded to his father's title and estates, it is recorded that "King Henry II granted him certain Privileges in 1160, and freed him from the payment of the Common Tax, called Neutgeld." Also that he founded the Priory of Lanercost in Cumberland "for the health of the Soul of Hubert his Father, Græcia his Mother, his own, with all his Ancestors' and Successors' Souls." Also that "in the fifteenth year of Henry II's reign" he paid two Marks for two Knights' Fees (whereby he held Gillesland)

upon levying the Aid for Marriage of the King's Daughter," and in the eighteenth year of the same reign paid forty shillings "in regard he was not in that Expedition then made into Ireland."

In 1174 Baron Robert was Sheriff of Cumberland. He was also Governor of Carlisle at the same time, and "after a long Siege laid thereto by William, King of Scotland, wanting victual, was necessitated to come to this Conclusion, viz., that if King Henry did not relieve him before Michaelmas, he should then render it." "To the Canons of Carlisle he gave the Church of Helton with one Carucate of Land lying in that Lordship." He seems to have been a pious man and a loyal in the days of a king whose sons were continually seducing the barons of the realm from their allegiance to the Crown.

But it is from William, the younger son of Baron Hubert, the De Welles family of Essex claim their descent. William de Vallibus, born in Cumberland about 1120, removed into Essex, where he held Rayne Hall and the Manor of Wessing adjoining, by gift of the king. He took the name of De Rayne from the Manor. His sons were Robert de Welles of Rayne Hall, born about 1145, Gernon de Vallibus of Wessing, born about 1150, who held the manor of Wessing, called also Virley, of his father, and took the name of Virley, Richard de Raynes

of Rayne Hall, born about 1155, and William de Raynes of Rayne Hall, born about 1160.

Robert de Welles of Rayne Hall, Essex, held the manor of Little Rayne, also styled Uggerly or Cowlea, of his father. He was the founder of the Welles family in Essex. Rayne Hall in Essex, Hundred of Hinckford, after the family of De Montfort, became vested in the family of Welles, of which Robert de Welles lived in the reigns of Henry II, Richard I, and John, during which reigns he is named in the records as Lord of Raynes. He was succeeded by his son Thomas de Welles, born in Essex, about 1175.

"Thomas de Welles held the manor of Little Raynes, in Essex, of King Henry III, *in capiti*, by patent in chief, as of the honor of Rayley, by the service of one knight's fee." The estate appears for a time to have been in other hands, the Lewkenor family. Afterwards it was in the family of Welles again, for we find that

Henry de Welles, son of Thomas, born in Essex about 1200, held the manor of Little Raynes at the time of his decease in 1293. It was described as "one messuage, two hundred and thirty-five acres of arable, with ninety-six days' work, six acres of pasture, eight acres of meadow, and ten acres of wood, with a view of frank-pledge pleas of court, and a water mill, paying ten shillings yearly to Dover Castle." Henry's son and heir was

Thomas de Welles, born in Essex about 1240. He succeeded his father Henry in 1293, held the same estate during his lifetime, and, dying in the year 1315, was succeeded by his son and heir,

Walter de Welles, born in Essex about 1270. He held the estate during his lifetime, the rent to Dover Castle being £16 per annum, and dying in 1325, William de Rushbrooke of Roysbrook, who had married the heiress Joane, came into possession and was living at Little Raynes in 1362. The time of his decease is unknown. Eleanor, his only daughter and heiress, born about 1330, married John Pyke, and in 1360 had a son Nicholas Pyke, who was presented to the church in Little Raynes in 1439. On his decease without issue, Maud, his only sister, became heiress of the estate.

The meager facts contained in the ancient rolls of the reigns of Henry I, Stephen, and the Plantagenet kings relating to the heirs of Little Raynes, are here set down because it appears from records, history, and tradition, that all of the name of Welles or Wells who emigrated to the American colonies during the seventeenth century were from Essex County, England, and doubtless descendants of Robert de Welles of Rayne Hall. The heirs from their long continuance in the estate, gave their name to the manor, and Rayne Hall became Wells Hall.

CHAPTER VII

FOUNDERS IN AMERICA

It was the troublous time of the second Stuart king in England. The first parliament, refusing supplies at the imperious demand of the young monarch, had been dissolved. The second, after impeachment of the king's favorite, the fickle Buckingham, suffered the same fate, as did the third, when it had wrung from the king an unwilling consent to its Petition of Right. Then for eleven years, with the help of Strafford and Archbishop Laud, the misguided monarch governed without parliament. Laud was encouraged to break the obstinate opposition of the Puritans by the enforcement of religious uniformity. He turned the Court of High Commission into a standing attack on Puritan ministers. Rectors and vicars were suspended or deprived for preaching the Gospel, and laymen excommunicated, fined, or imprisoned for refusing to kneel while receiving the communion, or bow to the cathedral altar.

In the year 1629, Nathaniel Welles, a wealthy shipbuilder of Colchester, Essex County, England,

one day drawn into conversation upon the affairs of the time, expressed himself in such a way as to disclose his hatred of Laud and his sympathy with the Puritans. Two of the nobility who were present, were not long in making known to the ministers of the crown the nature of the views so boldly asserted, articles of accusation were drawn up against him, and he was summoned to appear in the Court of Star Chamber to answer to the charges preferred. He had declared that all children were within the covenant of God, and would be saved, though not baptized; that Christians might lawfully go from their own parish where they had not two sermons on Sunday; that the surplice, the baptism, the marriage ring, and bowing at the name of Jesus were of the devil.

Knowing full well that the sentence of the court would be the pillory or imprisonment, besides confiscation of his property to aid in filling the empty exchequer of the king, Nathaniel Welles, instead of obeying the summons, took refuge in a ship that was just weighing anchor, and fled to America. It must have been one of the five vessels that came sailing into Salem Harbor on the twenty-ninth of June, 1629, bearing the Rev. Francis Higginson and two hundred more, to swell the numbers of John Endicott's little colony planted the year before.

The Colonial records declare that Nathaniel Welles took the freeman's oath at Boston, on the second of November, 1637. In 1640 he removed into Rhode Island, and made settlement in the wilderness upon a tract of over four hundred acres, purchased of the Narragansett Indians, calling the place Wellestown. He was the first of all who bore the name of Welles or Wells in America.

After Winthrop's departure in 1630, there was a break in the stream of emigration to the land across the sea, but the measures of Laud soon revived the panic of the Puritans. "Godly people in England began to apprehend a special hand of Providence in raising this plantation in Massachusetts, and their hearts were generally stirred to come over." "We now enjoy God and Jesus Christ," wrote Winthrop to those at home, "and is not that enough? I thank God I like so well to be here as I do not repent my coming." The number of emigrants increased rapidly. Three thousand sought the New England shore in a single year, and between the sailing of Winthrop's expedition and the assembly of the Long Parliament in 1640, two hundred emigrant ships had crossed the Atlantic and twenty thousand Englishmen found refuge in the New World. Among these were Thomas and Richard Welles, younger brothers of Nathaniel.

Richard Welles was born in Colchester, in 1609.

In 1635 he proceeded to Gravesend, whence he sailed on the sixth of August in the ship *Globe*, Captain Jeremy Blackman, landing at Boston, Massachusetts, in the same season.

From the Gravesend Register, 1635: "Theis underwritten names are to be transported to Virginia, imbarqued in the *Globe* of London, Jeremy Blackman, Mr., have been examined by the minister of Gravesend, of their conformitie and have taken the Oath of Allg'e and supremacie." Here follow one hundred and sixty-one names, among them those of the minister above mentioned, "Minister, John Goodbarne, aged 30," and "Richard Welles, aged 26."

Richard Welles took the freeman's oath at Boston, March 14, 1639. He was among the first settlers of Lynn, but in 1650 pushed out into the wilderness, and with others settled the town of Salisbury, Massachusetts. He became a prominent town officer, and deacon of the First Church. His wife's name was Elizabeth. He died on the twelfth of July, 1672, aged sixty-three. But it is in Thomas Welles that the readers of these pages are more especially interested, for he was the founder of their race in America, the Puritan father from whom they were all lineally descended.

The fact that different branches, and different members of the same branch of this family, have

varied the orthography of the name, does not conflict with the fact of their consanguinity. The De Welles who fought on London Bridge with the Earl of Crawford in 1390, was called John Wells in one historical account, and Lord Welles in another. Many of the descendants of Governor Welles of Connecticut, a cousin of Thomas of Ipswich, who retained the e in his name, dropped the superfluous letter in the second or third generation.

Thomas Wells, b. 1605, m. Abigail Warner,

Thomas Wells, b. 1605, m. Abigail Warner,

Nathaniel, 1636, m. Lydia Thorley.	John, 1638. Sarah, 1640. Abigail, 1612. Elizabeth, 1645. Thomas, 1647. Hannah, 1649. Lydia, 1651. Martha, 1653.	II
Abigail, 1662.	Martha, 1664. Sarah, 1665. Lydia, 1668. Nathaniel, 1669, m. Mary, 1671, III	Hannah and Elizabeth, 1676.
Abigail, 1698.	Mary, 1697. Nathaniel, 1699.	Daniel, 1709, m. Sarah Williams, IV
Margaret, 1730.	Mary, 1732. Daniel, 1735. Sarah, 1736. Abigail, 1738. Eunice, 1741. Lydia, 1743. Susannah, 1744. Hannah, 1746. Lucy Russell, V	Daniel, 1748, m. Lucy Russell, V
Samuel Williams, 1774, m. Elizabeth Swasey; 2, Tamson Doyle.	Nathaniel, 1776. Daniel, 1778.	Lucy.
Eliza Fulford, 1804.	Hannah, 1806. Almira, 1807. Samuel, 1810. Edward, 1813, m. Mary B. Evans, VII	Benjamin B. 1837, son of Tamson Doyle.
Eliza Ann, 1888.	Mary Eliza, 1840. Edward, 1841. Harriet, 1844. George, 1846, m. Sarah J. Castle, VIII	Kate, 1857, m. William R. Lockwood.
Edward Castle, 1871, m. Mary C. Brook-Russell, 1872, m. James Russell, IX	Willie George and James Russell, twins, 1873. Frank Charles Harrison, 1875. Harriet Lawrence, a son, 1883. Clifford Giddings, 1879. Kate Giddings, 1882. Frederick Giddings, 1884. Dorothy Giddings, 1887. Elizabeth Giddings, 1892.	Myra Wells, 1877. Arthur Morgan, 1879.
Jeannette Brookings, 1896, m. Henrietta R. Eaton, IX	James Russell, 1896, m. Margaret Jane, 1899.	

CHAPTER VIII

THOMAS WELLS

Thomas Wells was born in Colchester, Essex County, England, in 1605. Colchester is a beautiful market town on the west bank of the river Colne, about eight miles from its entrance into the English Channel. It is a place of great antiquity, and when a Roman station, was surrounded by a wall, some vestiges of which still remain. It contained a castle of great strength, supposed to have been built by a son of Alfred the Great in the year 920, the remains of which now serve as a house of correction. Prior to the Civil War, the wall, castle, and fortifications were entire; and throughout the struggle, the place was a stronghold of royalty, holding out with great obstinacy against the Parliamentary forces under Cromwell, until after Charles I was beheaded. It sustained much damage during the siege. But fifty-one miles from London, it was the residence of many of the nobility, and was much visited by royalists from the capital.

From this hotbed of ecclesiastics and royalists,

in which it was dangerous for a Puritan to utter his sentiments, even in the privacy of his own home, went forth Thomas Wells in the year 1635, to lend a hand in subduing a wilderness and building a state where Liberty might come and set up an everlasting home. "He set sail from Ipswich, England, in the 'Susan and Ellen' with his friend, young Richard Saltonstall, in 1635;" says Savage, "being then thirty years of age." Whether he started earlier or later in the season than his brother Richard, or what were his reasons for not taking passage in the same ship, the meager records fail to tell. Landing at Salem or Boston, he went at once with a considerable number of his fellow emigrants to a place called by the Indians Agawam, where in March, 1633, John Winthrop, Jr., with twelve others, had begun a settlement.

Agawam embraced all the country from the Merrimac on the north to the Naumkeag, now of Salem, on the south, from Cochichawick, afterward Andover, on the west, to the ocean on the east; but the spot chosen by Winthrop was about twelve miles northeast of Salem on the little Agawam River, near where it empties into the sea. The new-comers, men of intelligence, energy, and determination, went to work with a will, and before winter set in, the number of log houses had increased from six to sixty, and the plantation was

an established fact. It was called Ipswich, by the Court of Assistants of the governor, after Ipswich in England, "in acknowledgment of the great honor and kindness done to our people who took shipping there."

For a considerable period no persons were looked upon as inhabitants without the consent of the freemen, a regulation prevailing throughout the Bay Colony, which preserved each community from the intrusion of the idle, contentious, and immoral. To become a freeman, and none but such could hold offices, or vote for rulers, a person was legally required to be a respectable member of a Congregational church, and to take the freeman's oath in the General Court of the colony.

On the seventeenth of May, 1637, Thomas Wells took this oath at the spring meeting of the freemen of the colony, in Boston. These were the solemn words he uttered: "I, Thomas Wells, being by God's providence an inhabitant and freeman within the jurisdiction of this Commonwealth, do freely acknowledge myself to be subject to the government thereof, and therefore do here swear by the great and dreadful name of the everlasting God that I will be true and faithful to the same, and will accordingly yield assistance and support thereunto, with my person and estate, as in equity I am bound; and I will also truly endeavor to maintain and pre-

serve all the liberties and privileges thereof, submitting myself to the wholesome laws and orders made and established by the same. And further, that I will not plot nor practise any evil against it, nor consent to any that shall do so, but will truly discover and reveal the same to lawful authority now here established for the speedy preventing thereof. Moreover, I do solemnly bind myself in the sight of God, that when I shall be called to give my voice touching any such matter of this state wherein freemen are to deal, I will give my vote and suffrage as I shall judge in mine own conscience may best conduce and tend to the public weal of the body, without respect of person or favor of any man, so help me God, in the Lord Jesus Christ."

On his arrival in Agawam, Thomas Wells had a houselot granted to him on the south side of the river, near where the stone bridge now stands. Under the marginal date 1635, the transaction is thus recorded in the ancient books of the town: "Granted Thomas Wells one houselot one acre a half more or less, lying on the further side of the river, entered 1st day of June, 1638." On this lot he built his house of logs, and a few years later a comfortable frame dwelling, which was still standing in 1850. It was "two stories high, with the upper story jutting out a foot or so over the lower.



STONE BRIDGE, IPSWICH, MASS., BUILT IN 1764. REPLACED BRIDGE BUILT 1635

Photo 1898



The hipped roof, high and steep, had a peak on either side, so as to form small chambers." "The frames of the houses were of white oak and much larger than we use to-day, having the beams of each finished room considerably in sight. The windows were three feet long, and two wide, with four-inch diamond panes set in lead. The walls were daubed with clay mixed with straw, or plastered with a sort of lime made in great part from clam shells. The chimney in the middle was of large dimensions, and besides other fireplaces, had a mammoth one in the kitchen, which received and disposed of twenty or thirty cords of wood annually, and on winter evenings held the whole family in its ample corners." A writer of this time declares that "all Europe is not able to make so great fires as at New England. Here is good living for those who love good fires."

In 1638, Thomas Wells was granted planting lands near Heartbreak Hill, but still continued to dwell in the town, walking daily to and from his task. This was in accordance with the following regulation:

"1635, May. No dwelling-house shall be built above a half-mile from the meeting-house in any new plantation without leave from the Court."

He purchased land from Matthias Button June 14, 1644, and on the twenty-fourth of November

of the same year, Thomas Bishop sold him eighty acres, "the south-east butting on the highway leading to Castle Hill, and upon land of widow Sarah Lumpkin, called Sagamore Hill."

In April, 1651, Thomas Wells was required to yield a part of his houselot to the county for highway purposes, receiving in exchange ten acres of marsh near the mouth of the river. "Granted Thomas Wells ten acres of marsh in full satisfaction of the land taken from him for the county highway at the Bridge, the property of the land still remaining his."

In 1664 he was the owner of two shares in Plum Island, a sandbar nine miles long at the mouth of the Merrimac, where hundreds of his descendants, with multitudes living in Ipswich and the neighboring towns, have spent many a summer day, enamoured of the yellow sands, and the wide sea lifted to the glowing sky. The possession of these two shares in the public lands, indicates the social standing of their owner, for the ancient record declares, "1665, April 10th, Of 203 commoners, 28 have a double share in the Island, 70 one share and a half, 105 one share." Those who had two shares were the magistrates, elders, and the richest men.

Besides his town lot at the bridge, his planting lands at Heartbreak Hill, his Bishop farm, his marsh lots, and his interest in Plum Island, Thomas

Wells, who is referred to in the town histories as a gentleman of large property, owned three hundred and fifty acres in Preston, Maine. "Of William Raymonde of Preston alias Wells Gent. Thomas Wells purchased a farm of 200 acres and other lands, 1657."

A large proportion of the early inhabitants of Ipswich possessed intelligent minds and virtuous hearts. Free from ignorance and irreligion, their example gave force to their precepts. In 1638 Cotton Mather says: "In Ipswich is a renowned church consisting mostly of such illuminated Christians that their pastors in the exercise of their ministry might in the language of Jerome exclaim that they had not disciples so much as judges," and in 1646 a writer of the day declares, "The church of Christ here consists of one hundred and sixty souls being exact in their conversation and free from epidemical disease of all Reforming Churches, which under Christ is procured by their pious and orthodox ministry."

Among these grave and saintly men Thomas Wells seems to have been a shining light. Of the two deacons he was one. On the Sabbath, wearing his short cloak and steeple-crowned hat with a sober air, he would walk gravely to the meeting-house, and, with his fellow-deacon, take his seat under the pulpit, one step lower than the elders, to

listen to and take part in the service. After prayer by the Pastor, and the reading and expounding of a chapter by the Teacher (the First Church of Ipswich continued to employ both Pastor and Teacher for one hundred and ten years), one of the Ruling Elders would give out a psalm, such of the congregation as could sing standing and responding, one line at a time, to the elder's dictation. The sermon and sometimes an extemporaneous address would follow, then a second psalm, a second prayer, and a blessing.

The contribution was taken previous to the benediction, in the afternoon service. One of the deacons standing would say, "Brethren, now there is time left for contribution, wherefore as God hath prospered you, so freely offer." "The magistrates and chief gentlemen first, and then Elders and all the congregation come up one after another one way, and bring offering to the Deacon at his seate, and put it into a box if it be money or papers. If it be any other chattel they set it down before the Deacons and so pass another way to their seates againe." The deacons also collected the "ministerial taxes" in the town, and bestowed on paupers what the town raised for their support.

Besides holding office in the church, Thomas Wells was magistrate and physician. In the various genealogical works he is referred to as "a dis-

tinguished man," "one of the principal inhabitants," "a gentleman of large property," "a distinguished doctor," "a distinguished magistrate." He belonged to the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, probably from its organization in 1637. The history of that body records the few facts known of his life in Ipswich, and refers to him as ensign in 1644.

It is probable that he had frequent intercourse with his brother Richard, as Salisbury is but a few miles from Ipswich, but communication with Nathaniel in the Narragansett wilderness was more difficult. Still, the Massachusetts did not soon lose trace of the Rhode Island family, for Nathaniel's eldest son, bearing the name of his uncle Thomas, having a natural taste for naval architecture, went to Ipswich, where boat-building was early begun, and engaged in that business till 1677, when he returned to Wellestown.

Thomas Wells married Abigail Warner, daughter of William, and sister of Daniel and John Warner, "all of them people of consideration among the first settlers." She bore him three sons, Nathaniel, John and Thomas, and six daughters, Sarah, Abigail, Elizabeth, Hannah, Lydia, and Martha.

The father died on the twenty-sixth of October, 1666, leaving an estate valued at £1,214 3s. 3d. Previous to his death he transferred all his lands

in Preston, Maine, about three hundred fifty acres, to his son John. His will, dated July third, and probated November fifteenth, 1666, mentions relatives in Colchester, Essex County, England, his three sons, and all his daughters but the youngest, who probably died before her father. To Thomas, the youngest son, he bequeaths £250 sterling, to be paid to him in cattle, horses, wheat, barley, corn, peas, and pork "within seven years, four months and nine or ten days" after his majority. He also makes provision for Thomas's college course, and bequeaths him "all the bookes that I bought for his use, and my best phisicks bookes, and the booke called orthodox evangelist."* His library was appraised at £8 6s. 3d., a respectable medical collection for those days. Two books, "The Soul's Preparation for Christ" and "Parkins upon the Creed," he gave to his widow, and his will directs that "Mistress Mary Rogers of Rowley shall have the provision & Education, of my Daughter Hannah Wells, untill she marry, or come to the age of one & twenty years, hoping the saide Mistress Rogers will please to do me that favour."

Abigail, widow of Thomas Wells, survived her

*The "Orthodox Evangelist" was a work in several volumes published by the Reverend John Norton, pastor of the first Church in Ipswich, a man of great learning and eloquence. To the grief and dismay of his parishioners he was called to Boston, and one of his church members would frequently walk thither, at that time a distance of thirty miles, to hear him at the weekly lecture, remarking that it was worth a great journey to be a partaker in one of Mr. Norton's prayers.

husband five years. She died on the twenty-second of July, 1671, and her will, dated the day of her death and proved September 26, 1671, makes mention of her sons John and Nathaniel, and her daughters Hannah Wells, Lydia Rogers, and Abigail Treadwell. Why she omits the names of Thomas, Sarah, and Elizabeth is beyond conjecture, unless they were rich in this world's goods and needed not the little their mother had left to bequeath.

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT
OF
THOMAS WELLS.

Know all men by these presents that I Thomas Wells of Ipswich in the County of Essex being weak of body, yet of perfect memory, blessed be god, do make this my last will & testament, in manner following: viz. I Commend my soul into the hands of my Blessed Redeemer, in hope of a joyfull resurrection, into Eternal life att the last days: and my body to be decently buried. First I give, and bequeath unto Abigail my wife, eight pounds, quarterly to be paide unto her, out of my lands where now I dwell, during: her life, in lew of her Dowry: and this to be paide yearly, in wheat, malt, pork, pease & Indian Corn, in equall proportion, and to be good and merchantable, and paide att A currant merchantable prices as prices is then paide in Ipswich: Also, I give unto her, to have one of

the best rooms in my house viz. by that the Hall, or the parlour, (att her choyce) and to enjoy the same during her widdowhood. And to have free libty to bake, brew, & wash, etc. in the kitchen, & free libty to lay her corn, meal, & malt, etc. in the Hall chamber, and free use of garden grounds, what she liketh best, & to have it well fenced in, and to have land duly tilled, to sow flax seed on, and that yearly, as she shall see cause. & food room in both the sellors, as she needeth, and shall have suffichancye of fire wood provided and seasnably lay'd in, & that yearly, att the cost of my Executor, & free libty to keep three or fower henns, & a pigg, or hogg, in the grounds & yards, and shall have the sixth part of the fruits, that shall yearly grow in the orchard, & shall have the free use, & liberty of all that during her widdowhood.

I give unto my saide wife, the old Baye mare (she uses to ride on) and the bridle & pillion, and two coves (att her choyce) and to have the keeping of a horse or mare and of two Coves, for her use, both summer and winter, & good house room for them in winters, and these to be well kept, att the cost of my executors, during her widdowhood. Also, I give unto her the bible she usses & the booke called souls preperation for christ, & that of parkins upon the creed, and the bed stead, & the cording, curtains & vallants there unto belonging (excepting the blew rugg) and to have the best

green rugg. And I give unto her the Box, with T: W: upon the lidd, and to have one halfe of lynyen & lynyen clothe & the thirds of the wollen clothes, that is in the house, or in yarns, or cloth att the weavers; and the kinds of the wools in the house, att my death, and one half of the putter that was her own Fathers, and the putter pint pott or (tanker) and a brass or iron pott (att her choyce) and I give unto her the iron skillet & fower of the best spoons, & a good porringer, & a good cushion & one of the great wheels, & a little spinning wheel, and the warming pan, as legacies.

My will is that my saide wife shall have the free use of any kettle (of mine now in the house) or milk vessells, as she needeth, & of any other usable things in the house (that's mine) as though they were her own, and to have freedom att the well for watter & libty for her cloth's or any thing to be spread where she pleaseth, and this during her widdowhood.

As John Wells (my second son) hath received of me, a Deed of gift, of all the lands I had att the Towne of Wells, in the province of maine being the quantity of three hundred & fifty acres (more or less) arribble, meadows & pasture together and two coves, and ten pounds, fifteen shillings, I have paid, (att his request) unto Stephen kent of Harrowill, upon a bill due from Francis Littlefield Sen. (his father in law) and several other things, all which

he hath received. of me in lew of his portion & accordingly my will is, that the same shall so stand.

I give unto my son John Wells, ten pounds, to be paide unto him or to his assignes, within three years next after my decease, five pounds thereof in cattle neat & in good condition & the other five pounds, in wheat, malt. & Indian Corn in equal proportions & all good & undutiable & att the currant merchantable prices as it then goes here in Ipswich, & to be delivered att my now dwelling: provided that my son John Wells be then living. And I give unto him my cloks & one of the greate putter candlesticks; with the topp thereof & two great saucers, and two little saucers more. And I give unto Sarah wells, his wife (my Daughter in law) one five shillings peice of goods, as legacies.

whereas my two eldest Daughters, viz: Sarah massie of Salem, and Abigail Tredwell of this towne, hath each of them had thirty pounds in lewe of their portions, my will is that the saide Sarah massie, or her assignes, shall have a good cove or to the value of foure pounds ten shillings in other cattle & in good condition (bulls only excepted) & not to exceed eight years of age, and to have the same delivered, here where now I dwell within one year, & a half, next after my decease, and also, to have the benefit of all the grass, of a little parcel of salt marsh ground adjoyning, to the north west end

of my lands. and my daughter Sarah to enjoy the use of this, untill the decease of my Bro: massie, her father in law & then to return unto my executor.

Also, I give unto Abigail Tredwell my Daughter, my six acre lott of salt marsh that lyes in plum Island to her & her heirs, or a good cove to be delivered unto her, in good condition within one year, & a half next after my decease. I give and bequeath unto Thomas Wells my youngest son, two hundred and fifty pounds sterl. in lew of his portion, to be paide unto him, his heirs or assignes out of my houses & lands, where now I dwell within seven years, four months, & nine or ten days, next after the said Thomas Wells my son, do become to the full age of one & twenty years.....

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my will is, that if my executor (whom I shall name & appoint) do not duly and faithfully pay & discharge, this two hundred & fifty pounds, as before mentioned to my just intents (as before expressed) eyther in whole or in parts: Then the saide Thomas wells, my youngest son, his executors or assignes shall enter upon and take possession of, the lands, where now I dwell, both of arrable, meadows and pasture & quietly to posses & enjoy the same untill the whole be discharged, anything herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding

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my will is that Thomas Wells, my youngest son, shall quietly posses, and enjoy, for his use the parlour chamber of this house where now I dwell, and have free libty for fire wood, untill he marry, and that he shall have his board & washing, while he keeps house att the cost of my executor, untill he come to the age of one and twenty years, four month & ten days.

I give unto my son, Thomas Wells, all the bookes, that I bought for his use, and my best phisicks bookes, & the booke called the orthodox evangelist, and the chest & table (he made) that stands in the Hall chamber & my white clocks, and the little iron candlestick, and my pen knife, and my sword & scabitt, and my fire lock musket and a square barrell. Also I give unto him the little bedstead that is in the Hall chamber, and the little feather bed thereto belonging & a pair of good sheetes & the red blanket, & the blew rugg & a good pillow & pillow cases. Also I give unto my son Thomas my silver Bowls and one pound & twenty shillings peice of goods. And I give unto him, all my right, and interest, of the bonds, that is due, unto me, from Goodman John Andrews of this towne, (save only six pounds ten shillings thereof,) to my son Nath Wells which makes the rest that he hath all ready had there of twenty pounds, and this I give unto my son Thomas toward his charges of his gooing

to the Colledge, for bookes & apparrell, etc. and I give, the new pictures, viz: of the King, & Queen, I give unto him as Legacies, as also my short clothes and a paire of my best stockings.

I give unto, Elizabeth Wells, Hanah wells, and Lydia wells, my younger Daughters, each & every one of them, thirty-five pounds, a peice, to be paide unto them in lewe of their portion, within one year next after they marry, or when they come to the age of one & twenty years, twenty pounds thereof, to be paide in cattle neat, & in good condition (bulls only excepted) and in sheep, in good condition, And the remaining fifteen pounds, in each & every portions, to be paide in wheat, barley, malt, pork, & Indian corn, in equal proportion, and all to be good & merchantable and to be paide att the currant merchantable prices, as such is then paide att in Ipswich aforesaid, and to be delivered at my now dwelling house, save only the corns & malt, to be delivered here, or att any other house, kilns, or wharfs, where my Daughters, or any of them or their ass. shall appoint the same. Also my will is, that every one of the aforesaid my Daughters, shall have each of them a bible, & every one of them a good chist & to have thereof delivered unto each of them, within one year next after my de-cease.

I give & bequath unto Sarah massie of Salem

and to Abigail Tredwell of this Towne, & to Elizabeth wells & to Lydia wells, my owne Daughters, each and every one of them, two half Crowne peices of English money, to be delivered unto them, within one month next after my decease, and I give unto Hanah wells my Daughter, one ten shilling peice of goods, to be delivered unto her, within one month: after my decease. All which money, and the silver bowls, that is given unto my son Thomas, and to his three younger sisters, viz. to Elizabeth wells, Hanah & Lydia wells. I have already given them into the hands & custody of Thomas wells my youngest son, whom I trust, and confide in, to give the same, as I have bequathed unto his three younger sisters, and to keep the rest unto himself, as matter of legacies, and and they not att age as yet. I give unto Abigail my wife, the third part of the English money. which shall remain & be left, and not paide, unto the legatyes, that's deceased in England, & kindred of our unkle Lumkins, And my will is, that my saide wife, shall have the provision, of my Daughter, Elizabeth wells, and of my Daughters, Hanah & Lydia wells, untill they marry, or come to the age of one & twenty years, but if the saide Lydia, do not keepe with her mother, then she to be with her sister sarah massie, if all parties be willing.

My will is, that Mistress Mary Rogers of Row-

ley, shall have the provision, & education, of my Daughter Hanah wells, untill she marry, or come to the age of one & twenty years. hoping the saide mistress Rogers will please to do me that favour.

I give unto, our Cusson mary Barker (alis Lowe) Colchester, so much now England money as is equevolent, unto fifty shillings of old England money and my will is that my executor, do faithfully endeavor to conveigh the same unto her, it being in refference to an agreement, between, both my Bro warner and myself, in answer: to a request of our Aunt Lumkins (alis stone) late deceased, and to take advice of my Bro: Dan warner, about the condishing of the same.

Also my executor maye further direct himself by what I have set down in my book of accounts, to the purpose, as in Fol. 57. and by a letter sent unto us from Colchester.

I give and bequath all the rest of my whole Estate, both movable, & unmovable, personal, & real, house & lands, unto Nath: wells my eldest son, provided he doth fully accept herein, to be my executor, whom I make & ordain, to be the sole executor, of this my last will & testament.

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my will is, that if any thing fall out, amongst my wife & children (or any of them) otherwise than

well, that then, my loving & faithfull friends, whom I shall desire & appoint overseers of my last will, will please to examine, consider, & advise, to mutual agreement, who (by their wise discreession) maye settle matters amongst them, so as maye tend most & best to peace, and brotherly love in Christ Com-mands. Finally, I desire my loving & faithfull friends Thomas Bishop, senr, and Mr. Thomas Andrews to be the overseers, of this my last will, and testament, And to be the gardians, of my son Thomas wells, during the time of his minority, and non-age, to whom I give as a token of my respeck, & love, ten shillings a peice: In witness whereof, and to all wch I the above named Thomas wells senr have here unto sett my hand & seal.

Dated the 31st of the fith month, commonly called July. In the eighteenth year, of the reighn of our soveraigne, Lord Charles. (the second) by the grace of god. king of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland. in the year of our lord god, one thousand, six hundred sixty six. sealed and subscribed, in the presence of

Thomas Bishop senior.

Thomas Burnam senior.

by me Thomas wells senr.
seal.

The 15 eth of november 1666 this
will was proved by the oaths of

Thomas Bishop, and Thomas
Burnam, to be the last will
& testament of Thomas wells,
before the worshipfull Mr. Samuell
Symonds, Danall Denison the
clarke being present. by me
Robert Ford clarke.

This is my last will & testament
of Thomas Wells.

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(The estate valued	12	14	-	03	- 3.)

CHAPTER IX

CHILDREN OF THOMAS WELLS

Nathaniel, first child of Thomas Wells and Abigail, his wife, born in Ipswich about 1636, married Lydia Thurley on the twenty-ninth of October, 1661.

The gentlemanly town clerk of 1895 informed the writer that the Ipswich records were at one time piled on open shelves in a small building used for school purposes, and were free to the handling of children or any chance visitor. This carelessness of the authorities accounts for the loss of the first pages of the earliest book, with the marriage dates of the first inhabitants, and the birth dates of their children. The contents of the remaining pages are preserved in a beautiful indexed copy made some years since. The record of the above marriage is one of the earliest entries in this book. The following is its quaint orthography. "Nathaniell Wells and Liedia Thurlley, married 29 Oct. 1661." The name here spelled Thurley is variedly written in later records, Thurley, Thorley, Thorlo, Thurlo, and Thurlow.

But little is known of Nathaniel Wells, great-great-great-grandfather of Edward Wells of Quincy, Illinois. He was executor of his father's will, and probably of his mother's, who bequeaths him "the flax now growing." The following entry is found in one of the town books: "1676, September, Nathaniel Wells having brought up George Greeley from his birth, in recompense of his charge, he is ordered to live with the saide Nathaniel, his heirs and assigns until he is twenty-three years of age." Nathaniel Wells's wife died about 1674, and in 1675 he married Elizabeth.....who bore him twins, Hannah and Elizabeth, on the seventh of January, 1676. The town book thus records his death, "Nathaniell Wells dyed the 15 December 1681." His will, dated August 26, 1677, and proved March 18, 1682, mentions children, Nathaniel, aged 12; Abigail, 20; Lydia, 14; Sarah, 11; Thomas, 9; Hannah and Elizabeth, 5."

John Wells, second son of Thomas and Abigail, was born in Ipswich about 1638. At the age of twenty he received from his father three hundred and fifty acres in the province of Maine. Leaving his home in Ipswich, he penetrated the wilderness north of the Piscataqua, took possession of his estate, and with others founded the town of Wells, which was named in his honor. In 1660 he mar-

ried Sarah, daughter of Francis Littlefield, one of the founders. He became deacon of the First Church and a prominent man in the infant settlement, but did not long survive the hardships attending the clearing of the wilderness and planting of the town. He died on the eleventh of April, 1667, when only twenty-nine years old.

Thomas Wells, youngest son and sixth child of Thomas and Abigail, was born in Ipswich on the eleventh of January, 1647. One authority declares, "Though his father's will provided for his higher education, his name is not found in the list of graduates of any American college; but he enjoyed the distinction of being the first individual who received the honorary degree of Master of Arts from Harvard." Another authority asserts that he graduated from Harvard College in 1669.

He was settled as first pastor of the First Church in Amesbury, Massachusetts, in 1672 or 1673. Occasional preaching had been enjoyed in the "new town" for twenty years before that time, but he was the first who was recognized as the town's minister. He was engaged by a committee chosen May 11, 1672, "to see if they can obtain Mr. Weels to be helpfull to us in the work of the Ministry," and so endeared himself to his parishioners as to remain their beloved spiritual leader for sixty-two years.

From the days when the meeting-house was a little log structure, fortified by a brace of cannon and a strong fence of stakes, and neighbored by the stocks and the pillory, to the time when a fine new edifice, commodious, substantial, and quite unfortified, graced a larger lot nearby, this grave puritan preached, prayed and exhorted acceptably to the people of his charge.

Thoroughly educated and possessing brilliant talent, the people were enchanted by the words that fell from his lips, and as he grew old among them touched by his devotion to their interests. His pastorate extended through many trying times. Indian wars, citizens murdered or carried into captivity and unfruitful seasons prevented the raising of crops sufficient to supply the needs of the community; but under these trials Mr. Wells was ever ready to suffer with his people, and more than once voluntarily abated part of his salary.

At the time of his installation the church authorities granted him half a seat, which could hardly accommodate his family as it increased numerically. In 1704 the minister sent a petition to the town-meeting for liberty to build a pew on the outside of the house, "not damnifying ye meeting house nor any room or seat or place therein upon the forfeiture of treble damages." The pew was built and proved convenient, though hardly

ornamental to the building. He sometimes taught the town school, and for many years kept the book of births and deaths. His writing was good, plain, and bold. He was not wholly dependent on his salary for a living, as good management had enabled him to become quite a land-holder. He kept a horse and some other stock, and for nearly the whole of his long ministry lived in his own house.

Admitted as commoner in 1673, Thomas Wells was all his life helpful not only in church but in secular affairs, and a man of great influence throughout the country as well as in his own town. On the third of March, 1671, he married Mary Parker, daughter of the Reverend Thomas Parker of Newbury, who, in 1635, began the settlement of that town on the banks of the river named in his honor. Parker's company had come from Boston by the way of Ipswich, and lingered there through the winter, awaiting recruits before pushing out into the wilderness to make a new settlement. The intimacy begun with the founders in this time of waiting, fostered by the convenient water-way between the two towns, continued uninterrupted for many years, and it is probable that the families of Thomas Parker and Thomas Wells were friendly before the birth of Thomas, Jr., or the fair Mary. It is also probable that Thomas, Jr., grown to manhood, frequently dropped down the little Ipswich River in his shallop, and beating up Plum Island

stream 'through the wide marshes, steered his course for the little settlement under the Newbury hills, where the grave Puritan maiden awaited his coming.

The Reverend Thomas Wells died on the tenth of July, 1734. His wife had passed from earth seven years before. The ancient stones that mark their graves are thus quaintly inscribed:

Interred here the Body of,
the Rev. Mr. Thomas Wells
first Pastor, of the first Church
of Christ in Amesbury. who
Departed this life July ye 10th
1734. in the 87th year of his
Age, & the 62d of his Ministry,
having served his Generation by
the will of God he fell on sleep, and
(we trust) enjoys a Prophets reward.
for tho' Israel should not
be Gathered, yet would
the faithfull ministers of
the Gospell, be glorious
in the Eyes of the Lord.

Interred Here The Body
Of Mrs. Mary Wells
Decd January The 26th
1727 Aged 75 Years
Late Wife of Mr. Thomas
Wells

DEATH IS NOT DUMB IT BIDS US ALL
PREPARE BEFORE BY IT WE FALL
WE KNOW NOT HOW NOR WHERE NOR W
HEN
FIT NOW OR NEUR WE CANNOT THEN

Nothing is known of the daughters of Dr. Thomas Wells except that Sarah, born in 1640, married a Massie of Salem, that Abigail, born in 1642, married a Tredwell, also of Salem, that Elizabeth, born in 1645, married a Burnham of Ipswich, that Hannah, born in 1649, was left by the conditions of her father's will to the training of "Mistress Mary Roggers of Rowley," and that Lydia, born in 1651, became Lydia Rogers before the decease of her mother in 1671. Martha, born in 1653, probably died in childhood, as she is mentioned neither in the will of father nor mother.

CHAPTER X

CHILDREN OF NATHANIEL WELLS

Nathaniel, eldest son of Dr. Thomas Wells, was twice married. His first wife bore him two sons and five daughters and his second wife twin daughters. Their births are thus recorded.

Abigaill daughter of Nathaniel Wells borne the 17 August 1662.

Martha daughter of Nathaniel Wells borne the 13 of January 1664.

Sarah daughter of Nathaniel Wells borne the 10 of March 1665.

Lydia daughter of Nathaniel Wells borne the 5th of Aprill 1668.

Nathaniel son of Nathaniel Wells borne the 27 of Jan. 1669.

Sarah daughter of Nathaniel Wells borne the 24 of May 1671.

Thomas son of Nathaniel Wells borne the 19th of June 1673.

Hanah }
Elizabeth } daugh. of Nathaniel Wells borne
the 7th of June 1676.

But little is known of this generation. Martha died in infancy, and Sarah at the age of five years.

"Martha daughter of Nathaniel Wells dyed 12 of Feb 1664."

"Sarah daughter of Nathaniel Wells dyed the 15th of Jan 1670."

Nathaniel the first son, and the great-great-grandfather of Edward Wells of Quincy, Illinois, was surveyor of highways in 1697. He married Mary———— who bore him six children, and survived him four years.

"Mary Wells widow of Nathl Wells dyed ye 19th of August 1721."

Nathaniel died on the thirteenth of October, 1717. He was buried in the High Street Burying Ground, Ipswich, where a battered slab of slate still stands, bearing the following inscription:

Here Lyes Buried Ye Body of Mr Nathaniel Wells who died October ye 13 1717 Aged 48 years

CHAPTER XI

CHILDREN OF THE SECOND NATHANIEL

Nathaniel and Mary Wells, according to the town record, had three sons and three daughters. Their births are thus recorded :

Abigail daughter to Nathaniel and Mary Wells borne Aprill 12th 1693.

Mary daughter to Nil and Mary Wells born May 7th 1697.

Nathaniel son to Nathaniel and Mary Wells born Apr 24 1699.

Moses son to Nathll and Mary Wells born 16 March 1701.

Sarah daughter to Nathaniel Wells born Jan 23 1703-4.

Daniel son of Nathaniel and Mary Wells born May 4, 1709.

Of the daughters nothing is known. Of the sons, Nathaniel married Sarah Kinsman in 1723.

“Nathaniel Wells and Sarah Kinsman, both of Ipswich, were published the seventh day of July 1723.”

They had three sons and ten daughters. Their

first son, Nathaniel, baptized May 26, 1734, marched with the first Ipswich company on the Lexington alarm, enlisted, and served through the war. He fought under Washington in New Jersey. The father had served King George in the French and Indians Wars, and attained to the rank of captain. He died on the twenty-seventh of May, 1790, and was buried in High Street burying ground by the side of his father. A slate tablet bears the following quaint inscription :

In Memory of Capt Nathaniel Wells who departed this Life May 27th 1790, In the 92d year of his age.

Farewell all friends I must be gone,

For God that made me calls me home.

His wife had died eighteen years previously. "Here Lyes the Body of Sarah Wells wife of Capt Nathaniel Wells who died July 5th 1772 in the 67th year of her age."

Moses Wells, second son of Nathaniel and Mary, married Eunice Kinsman, sister of Sarah. "Moses Wells and Eunice Kinsman, both of Ipswich, were published the twentieth day of Nov. 1724." They had five sons and two daughters.

Daniel Wells, youngest son of Nathaniel and Mary, married Sarah Williams, daughter of Samuel Williams, deacon of the First Church, on the

twenty-fourth of March, 1729. "Daniel Wells and Sarah Williams, both of Ipswich, were published the 28th day of Feb., A. D. 1729." "Daniel Wells and Sarah Williams were married March 24, 1729." He moved to Newbury probably in the summer of 1745.

In one hundred years the settlement begun at Parker River, had spread from the shelter of the Oldtown Hills northward along the right bank of the Merrimac, and eagerly embracing the opportunities the river and harbor offered, had laid the foundations of its future commercial activity. Small vessels for fishing were numerous, and larger and more pretentious craft carried fish and oil to the nations of Europe and the islands lying toward the south. Daniel Wells was a cooper, and the demand for barrels and casks created by Newbury's fishing interests, led him to leave his native place for the growing town at the mouth of the Merrimac.

He resided in the First Parish, but his sympathies were with a body of men who, influenced by the preaching of Whitefield, had been led to secession from the Congregational body. George Whitefield preached in Newbury for the first time on the thirtieth of September, 1740, addressing a large audience assembled in the Third Parish meeting-house in what is now known as Market Square.

The marvelous voice that had rung among the bleak moors of Northumberland, in the dens of London, and in the long galleries where the Cornish miner hears in the pauses of his labor the sobbing of the sea; the thrilling eloquence that had wrung admiration from the fastidious Walpole, and from the infidel Hume the admission that it was worth while to go twenty miles to hear him, did not fail to arouse enthusiasm in the minds of the descendants of the Puritans. This enthusiasm resulted in the organization of a new religious society, begun in 1743, but not completed till the third of January, 1746.

In 1743 nineteen men withdrew from the services of the First Church and opened a place of worship on the easterly side of High Street, just below the corner of Federal, employing Joseph Adams, a young graduate of Harvard University, to minister to their spiritual needs. The whole movement for a separate religious establishment was strenuously resisted by the pastor and church of the First Parish, who designated the proceedings of the Separatists, as they were called, as irregular and disorderly, and refused them letters of dismissal and recommendation to the Presbyterian body of which, in the course of time, they desired to become a part.

On the twentieth of December, 1745, the Sepa-

ratists, who had for nearly three years absented themselves from the services of the First Church, formally withdrew from its communion in a communication which concluded as follows:

Wherefore brethren on these considerations for the peace of our consciences our spiritual edification and the honor and interest of religion as we think we do now withdraw communion from you and shall look upon ourselves as no longer subjected to your watch and discipline but shall agreeable to ye advice given us speedily as we may seek us a pastor who is likely to feed us with knowledge and understanding and in whom we can with more reason confide.

And now brethren that the God of a full light and truth would lead both you and us into a knowledge of all truth as it is in Jesus is and shall be the prayer of your brethren.

Charles Pierce	Thomas Pike
Moses Bradstreet	Daniel Wells
Edward Presbury	Joseph Hidden
John Brown	Nathaniel Atkinson Jr.
Richard Hall	Jonathan Plummer
Benjamin Knight	Daniel Goodwin
William Brown	Silas Plumer
Benjamin Pierce	Samuel Hall
Daniel Noyes	Cutting Pettingell
Major Goodwin	

On the third of January, 1746, these men "embodied into a church," according to the following covenant:

We the subscribed brethren who were members of the First Church in Newbury and have thought it our duty to withdraw therefrom do also look upon it our duty to enter into a church estate: specially as we apprehend this may be for the glory of God and the interest of the Redeemer's kingdom, as well as for our own mutual edification and comfort.

We do therefore, as we trust, in the fear of God, mutually covenant and agree to walk together as a church of Christ according to the rules of the gospel.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals this 3d day of January, 1746.

This solemn covenant is signed by the nineteen men whose names are subscribed to the letter of withdrawal.

The new church, as yet independent, by the advice of Whitefield, extended an invitation to the Rev. Jonathan Parsons to become their pastor, and he was accordingly installed on the nineteenth of March, 1746. The form of installation was certainly original and unique. After the singing of a hymn, Mr. Parsons, having first mentioned the reasons against his settlement, made a final proposi-

tion to the assembled church with the object of finding out if they still desired him to be their pastor. The vote taken by the clerk was declared unanimously in the affirmative. The pastor elect then said, "In the presence of God and these witnesses I take this people to be my people"; and the clerk replied, "in the presence of God and these witnesses we take this man to be our minister." Mr. Parsons then preached the sermon he had prepared, no other ceremonies except prayer being observed.

On the twenty-eighth of March the new church petitioned the First Church for a dismissal and recommendation to the Presbyterian body with which they desired to connect themselves. This request the Church refused to grant. On the sixth of the following month a committee of the Separatists sent in a second petition commencing, "Revered and beloved in those points of christianity wherein we can agree," desiring the church to favor them with the reasons for not granting their request. This was of no avail, and in the following September they were admitted to the Presbytery of Boston without recommendation.

Though now recognized as a regular Presbyterian church, the First Parish still insisted on the right to tax them for the support of public worship; and their petitions to the Legislature to be released from the payment of these taxes were met by re-

monstrances and refusal. For a long time the Separatists were compelled to sustain a double burden, the law requiring them to pay taxes for the maintenance of the church from which they had withdrawn, and their own inclination and covenant demanding the support of the church they had founded. Some of the oppressed band absolutely refused to pay the tax laid by the First Parish, preferring to spend their days in prison to submitting to an unjust demand. Though granted some concessions in the course of years, it was not till 1794 that they were entirely released from paying taxes to the Congregational interest, by a general act bestowing ecclesiastical freedom on the town.

In all these proceedings Daniel Wells was an active participant. On the seventh of April following the installation of Mr. Parsons, when the organization of the church was completed by the election of six ruling elders, he was chosen one, and held the office till old age rendered him incapable of performing its duties. In 1756 the society removed from the small building on High Street to its new and steepled edifice on Federal, where Daniel Wells owned a floor pew and sat under the high pulpit as ruling elder for many years. He heard Whitefield preach from that pulpit many times, from 1756 to 1770, and in 1775, on the Sunday following the battle of Lexington, witnessed



N. B. BENTLEY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWBURYPORT,
as it looked in the elder Daniel Wells's time

IN WHICH WAS INTERRED

REV. GEORGE

WELLS



the remains of

WHITEFIELD.

the house in which he lived

BUILT 1756

the remarkable proceedings when Jonathan Parsons, after preaching a fiery sermon on resistance to tyranny, raised a company in the broad aisle of the church to swell the numbers of the gathering continental forces.

In 1770 Whitefield, on his seventh missionary tour of the colonies, died in the second house from this historic edifice, and was buried in a vault beneath the pulpit, a low arched receptacle which was undisturbed in the rebuilding of the church in 1856, and is still annually visited by hundreds of tourists. The poet Whittier thus refers to Whitefield and his place of burial :

Under the church of Federal Street,
Under the tread of its Sabbath feet,
Walled about by its basement stones,
Lie the marvelous preacher's bones.
No saintly honors to them are shown,
No sign nor miracle have they known,
But he who passes the ancient church,
Stops in the shade of its belfry-porch,
And ponders the wonderful life of him
Who lies at rest in that charnel dim.

In 1751 Daniel Wells bought a house-lot near the Merrimac, which is thus described in the ancient deed, still in a fair state of preservation :

a Lott of Land in Newbury aforesaid Containing
Thirteen Rod of Land Bounded Southerly by a
way of One Rod and an half Broad Three Rod &

a Quarter, Easterly by a lane of One Rod broad Four Rod, Northerly by Saml. Peirce's Land Three Rod & a Quarter, and Westerly by Joshua Greenleaf's Land four Rod, With the Priviledg of passing and Repassing in Said Lanes as He hath Occasion as ye Said Lanes are to be Opened for a Publick Use.

The deed beginning, "To all People to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting. Know Ye That I Timothy Toppan of Newbury in the County of Essex and Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England Blockmaker, For and in Consideration of the Sum of Twenty five Pounds Lawful Money to me in Hand before the unsealing hereof, well and truly paid by Daniel Wells of Newbury aforesaid Cooper," concludes as follows:

in witness whereof I have hereto Set my hand & Seal this Twenty fourth Day of April in the twenty-fourth Year of King George ye Second Reign Annoque Domini 1751.

Signed Sealed & Delivered Timothy Toppan
in presence of
John Brown
Joseph Willet

On the lot described in this instrument, Daniel Wells built the house which sheltered his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren and did not pass out of the family till 1875.



BIRTHPLACE OF EDWARD WELLS, NEWBURYPORT, MASS., BUILT 1751-52

WELLS
1751-52
NEWBURYPORT, MASS.

Photo 1890

The nineteenth day of May, 1780, was the famous Dark Day. By nine o'clock people could not see to weave, and candles were lighted to enable those who were not overcome by fear to continue their daily tasks. The poet Whittier thus describes the scene:

"There fell
Over the bloom and sweet life of the spring,
Over the fresh earth and the heaven of noon,
A horror of great darkness, like the night
In day of which the Norland sagas tell,—
The twilight of the Gods. The low-hung sky
Was black with ominous clouds, save where its rim
Was fringed with a dull glow, like that which climbs
The crater's sides from the red hell below.
Birds ceased to sing, and all the barnyard fowls
Roosted; the cattle at the pasture bars
Low'd, and looked homeward; bats on leathern wings
Flitted abroad; the sounds of labor died;
Men prayed and women wept; all ears grew sharp
To hear the thunder of the wrath of God
Break from the hollow trumpet of the cloud."

Daniel Wells was a man of eminent piety. By his upright life and an endless procession of gentle influences he had won the love and confidence of his neighbors, who believed that he walked and talked with God. When the blackness of the Dark Day gathered about them, they flocked into the Wells kitchen and threw themselves on their knees that they might meet the Lord, in the company of one of His saints, if His great day were indeed come.

The wide old kitchen was crowded. The light of the few candles disclosed the troubled eyes of men who had been driven from their labor, and the faces of weeping women and children. Undisturbed among them, with eyes and voice raised in prayer, stood the white haired man in whom they trusted. To some he seemed like the angel who stood in the sun. To others he seemed clothed with armor—the armor of righteousness—and so fitted to cope with the devil when he should appear. To the strong he was a source of inspiration, and to the weak a tower of refuge.

Daniel Wells died in 1790, three years after the death of his wife. They were buried in the ancient burying-ground of the First Parish, where a slab of blue slate quaintly ornamented with a cherub's head and wings, and bearing the following inscription, still marks their resting place.

Sacred to the Memory
of
Mr Daniel Wells,
long a ruling Elder
in the Presbyterian Church
in Newbury-port,
who after a well tried life
of steady piety
sweetly exchanged a bed of
languishing
for a seat above the skies
April 8th 1790 Aetat 82.

And to the Memory
of his pious Consort
Mrs. Sarah Wells,
Who finished her course of
patient sufferings in this life

a
& eger longings for a better,

Λ
Oct. 14, 1787 Aet. 79.

With hands and hearts conjoined we humbly trod
The path of Wisdom up to wisdom's God.
Tho thorny trials oft beset our way
We find it led us right to endless day.
And now from realms of bliss we kindly call
Children and friends for this to give up all.
If ardent love to Christ your heart inspires
Soon will he come to fill your best desires.
Then joined with us you'll mingle flame with flame
And sing in raptures great Immanuel's name.

CHAPTER XII

CHILDREN OF DANIEL WELLS

Sarah Wiliams bore Daniel Wells, her husband, eight daughters and two sons, of whom seven daughters and one son were born in Ipswich.

FROM IPSWICH RECORD

Margaret daughter of Daniel and Sarah Wells
bap Jan 3, 1730

Mary daughter of Daniel and Sarah Wells born
& bap June 4 1732

Daniel son of Dan & Sarah Wells bapc April 27th
1735.

Sarah daughter of Daniel and Sarah Wells born
May 5 1736.

Abigail daughter of Daniel and Sarah Wells
born Sept 28, 1738

Eunice daughter of Daniel and Sarah Wells born
May 15, 1740

Lydia daughter of Daniel and Sarah Wells born
Feb. 6, 1743

Susannah daughter of Daniel and Sarah Wells
born Nov. 25, 1744.

Daniel an infant son of Dan and Sarah Wells dyed May 21st 1735.

As Susannah, last child whose birth is recorded in Ipswich, was born on the twenty-fifth day of November, 1744, and the name of Daniel Wells appears in the church record of Newbury as early as November 25, 1745, it is supposed that he moved to Newbury in the interval between. All the above names except those of Mary, who probably died in Ipswich, though no record of her death can be found, and Daniel who died in Ipswich, as noted above, are found in the Newbury record, also the name of Hannah, the youngest daughter, who was born after the change of residence; but there is no entry in either record of the birth of Daniel Wells in whom, because he was the grandfather of Edward Wells, the reader of these pages are most deeply interested.

FROM NEWBURY RECORD

Margaret Wells the Daughr of Daniel Wells & Sarah his wife was born at Ipswich the 2nd day of Jany 1731.

Sarah Wells ye daughter of Daniel Wells and Sarah his wife born May 5th 1736.

Abigail ye daughter of Daniel and Sarah Wells his wife born Sept 28, 1738.

Eunice daughter of Daniel and Sarah Wells born May 15 1741.

Lydia daughter of Daniel and Sarah Wells born Feb 6th 1743.

Susannah daughter of Daniel and Sarah Wells born Nov. 25th 1744.

Hannah daughter of Daniel and Sarah Wells born Dec. 9th 1746.

Of this generation but little is known. The writer of these pages, while searching for epitaphs in the High Street burying-ground of Ipswich one summer day, in the course of conversation with the guardian of that ancient place of interment concerning the worthies buried there, was informed by him that his wife's grandfather, Robert Wallis of Ipswich, married Eunice Wells of Newbury. A comparison of dates disclosed the fact that she was the daughter of Daniel and Sarah Wells, and a distinct feeling of cousinship sprang up between two people who had never till that moment seen each other. Eunice Wells was the mother of three sons, Robert, Moses, and William Wallis, two of whom with their father, fought at Bunker Hill. Moses was shot, and in the retreat left for dead, but later was found, conveyed to a place of safety, and nursed back to strength and further service in the patriot cause.

The writer of these pages has in vain searched the town records of Ipswich and Newbury, and the family records of the descendants of the junior

Daniel Wells, for the dates of his birth and death. His wife was born on the twenty-second of May, 1748, and he may have come into existence the same year or the year previous, or between his sisters Susannah and Hannah, who were born in 1744 and 1746 respectively. Like his father, he was a cooper. He married Lucy Russell in 1773. After his father's death, in 1790, he resided in the Wells homestead.

Lucy Russell Wells, the paternal grandmother of Edward Wells, was a woman of great sweetness and unselfishness of disposition, devoted to the interests of her family and the poor and suffering in her neighborhood. Her second son, Nathaniel, a young man of singular purity of life and remarkable spiritual attainments, fell a victim to consumption on the twentieth of May, 1794, fifteen years before the death of his mother, March 1, 1809. Their epitaphs, which may still be deciphered by removing the mosses that have gathered upon them in old Newbury burying-ground, are as follows:

Memoriae Sacrum.

Mrs. Lucy Wells,
consort of Mr. Daniel Wells
born May 22d 1748 aet 60
The affectionate wife, Amiable Companion,
Tender Mother and Loving Child.
Her useful Life fell a Sacrifice
to the care of her Family March 1st 1809.

But not without a well grounded hope
of Joining the Family of the blessed above,
 where her Second Son
 Nathaniel
 whose mortal part lies near Hers
Arrived Singing the triumphs of
 Redeeming Love,
 May 20th 1794.

Daniel Wells died previous to 1823, and was buried by the side of his wife in his father's lot in the old Newbury burying-ground, but no stone was erected in his memory.

CHAPTER XIII

CHILDREN OF THE SECOND DANIEL

Lucy Russell bore Daniel Wells, her husband, three sons and three daughters, Samuel Williams, Nathaniel, Daniel, Mary, Rebecca, and Lucy.

Nathaniel, born in 1776, is referred to on the preceding page. His elder brother, Samuel Williams, always spoke of him with great tenderness, frequently telling to his children the story of his beautiful life and triumphant death.

Daniel, born August 19, 1778, married Rebecca Bussel on the twenty-third of March, 1800, who bore him some half dozen children. Of this family the writer has been able to gather but few facts, and these not of special interest. Daniel Wells died on the twenty-fourth of July, 1824.

Mary Wells, the eldest daughter, never married. She was a woman of refinement and sweetness of spirit, a peacemaker wherever she encountered family or neighborhood difficulties, and endured uncomplainingly the trials of loneliness and failing health that came to her in her old age.

Rebecca Wells married John Pettingell of Newbury. She had two children, Mary Ann and William, who, on the death of their mother, were taken into the home of their grandfather, Daniel Wells. William, a boy of remarkable beauty and great promise, was drowned while playing with his mates in the river. Mary Ann, married at eighteen to William Shaw, became the mother of seven children, William E., Mary Ann, Edward F., Horace A., Catherine G., Emily A., and Eliza Wells. These children, with their mother, were greatly beloved by Samuel Williams Wells. Emily informs the writer that he always called her Beauty, and that she remembers him as a beautiful and interesting old man. The children of Samuel Williams Wells in their youth greatly enjoyed visiting with this family, who lived quite grandly in a large brick house in the business center of the town; and Edward Wells never failed to call on the mother in his annual visits to Newburyport. She was a beautiful woman, who was confined to her bed for the last twelve years of her life; the object of the utmost devotion of her daughters, Kate and Emily, and her son-in-law, Mr. George H. Corliss of Providence, R. I.

Mary Ann, the eldest daughter, after teaching a few years in Newburyport, Hartford, Connecticut, and Providence, Rhode Island, established a private school in the last named city, which in the course of years brought her fame and a comfortable for-

tune. But she lived to enjoy her fortune only a few months after her retirement from business, passing from life and all the beautiful things that nobility of character and wonderful executive ability had brought her, at the comparatively early age of forty-nine. The friends who knew her best wrote her epitaph in the words addressed to the angel of the church in Thyatira, "I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works, and the last to be more than the first."

Kate and Emily, the second and third daughters, were also teachers for a number of years. Emily was employed in her sister Mary's school in Providence till her marriage with George H. Corliss, the famous inventor and manufacturer of engines, who built the "Corliss Giant" for the Centennial exhibition in 1876. Mr. Corliss bought the historic "Lord Timothy Dexter" mansion in Newburyport and presented it to his wife. In the magnificent grounds and fine old rooms, with his wife and daughter, he passed his summers, while his wife's mother and sister, preferring the city of their birth to Providence, were sheltered in the beautiful place throughout the year. Among the many testimonials to Mr. Corliss's worth, published after his death, the following, signed L. W., which appeared in "The Churchman," an organ of the Protestant

Episcopal Church, is selected because of its truthfulness as well as delicacy of expression :

THE LATE GEORGE H. CORLISS.

"Strength and beauty are in His sanctuary." Many a man has lived in heaven enough to find there the secret of manly strength, and many a one the inspiration of a tender sweetness. Few combine those two elements so nobly as the dear and honored friend in whose praise I write, because his life was a lesson. The ideals of both were before him in his work and in his life.

In his work, to take one example, that wonderful "Centennial" engine, the most widely renowned of all the exhibits of the Exposition of 1876, was designed with as much care of beauty as of power. That rare combination was its peculiar charm, which the sculptor Bartholdi crowned with his praise, "It should have been judged among the 'Works of Art.'"

"Elegant and refined among engines," says a thoughtful notice, "as its inventor was among men." Yes, truly, the work was a symbol of the life. That rare union of strength and beauty, power and sweetness, was everywhere. In his religious life a Congregationalist, with clear and strong convictions, which he never saw reason to change, he would not change his ecclesiastical

relations for any earthly motive; but his wife and daughter being of our communion, he would give his thousands every year to our churches, hospitals, and schools, in addition to a magnificent generosity to his own household of faith. In his home life—the sweetest I ever knew—this man of vast power, this man to whom a masterful authority was both natural and habitual, was the most unfailing, gentle gentleman, always chivalrous, always tender. “The secret,” said a shrewd observer of that happy family group, “the secret is that they respect one another’s individuality.” Oh! the rare beauty of a strength that is capable of such reverent reserve in the presence of another’s freedom.

Mr. Corliss had a strong will, it has been well said, and opposition only made it stronger. He tried to find out what was right, and when he had made up his mind, nothing could turn him. The story of his threatening to stop the running of his “Centennial” engine if the exposition should be opened on Sundays is widely known. Just as characteristic is a story of another kind. He was building the Pettaconset pumping-station of the Providence water-works, and his contract gave him scant time. A political ring was against him, bitter personal enemies were watching him, hoping to discredit him, and in his exciting race against time he had even taken the masons from his own new house

in the city to hurry on the work. One day he was shown where a robin's nest was right in the workmen's way. "We must break it up," they said. "No," ordered the great builder, whom nothing could turn, "No, we must build somewhere else till the young birds can fly."

Sorely missed out of this life is a man who would fight the whole world, if need were, for a principle, but build up his ambitions tenderly around a bird's nest, and risk something of his reputation rather than disturb that fluttering mother heart.

After the death of Mr. Corliss, his family erected a magnificent memorial edifice suited to the needs of the Young Men's Christian Association of Newburyport, and presented it to that body, inscribing on the marble tablet at its entrance :

This building is erected in loving memory of George H. Corliss, by his family, and devoted to the use of the Young Men's Christian Association.

A. D. 1890.

"Write me as one that loves his fellow-men."

Lucy, youngest daughter of the six children of Daniel and Lucy Wells, married Daniel Morrill and moved to Bangor, Maine, where she brought up a large and interesting family. These Bangor cousins corresponded with the children of Samuel Williams Wells, and occasionally visited his family till after his death, when all track of them was lost.

CHAPTER XIV

SAMUEL WILLIAMS WELLS

Of the six children of Daniel and Lucy Wells, Samuel Williams, the father of Edward Wells of Quincy, Illinois, was the eldest. He was born in Newbury on the twelfth of June, 1774. His father managed only by hard work and the strictest economy to give his sons and daughters a comfortable home and such education as the town schools afforded. In addition to this, Samuel, who was a lover of books, acquired a knowledge of the science of navigation, with all the learning necessary to a complete understanding of this branch, and when a very young man began to impart this knowledge to men preparing for a sea-faring life.

An old pupil says of him, "He taught geometry, trigonometry, surveying, and the art of navigating a ship by plane sailing, traverse sailing, parallel sailing, middle latitude, and mercator's sailing. Also how to find the sun's declination, the latitude by observation, and how to keep a journal at sea; demonstrating theories by illustrated problems as well as orally."

His classes in navigation were conducted day and night in his own small schoolhouse on Marlborough Street, where he also taught the three R's to children whose parents preferred his methods to those of the public school. The men were seated about his desk, while the youngsters conned their tasks in the rear, the boys on one side of the aisle and the girls on the other. At times he was employed by the town to teach the district school, when his own school-house was open only at night for the classes in navigation.

He was a most skillful penman, and trained his pupils not only to write with perfect neatness and precision, but to illustrate their problems with pen and ink drawings of great elegance. The wife of a former pupil, who is now a white-haired man of eighty, has shown the writer not only the copy-books of her husband written when he was thirteen, but those of his father before him, prepared under Master Wells more than ninety years ago. They are beautiful specimens of what the pen could even then be made to do in the hands of apt pupils of a clever and conscientious master. The walls of the schoolhouse in which these boys were trained were decorated with transcriptions of texts and scientific facts, and their desks supplied with smaller copies, all done with a nicety which must have cost the master daily out-of-school work.

Master Wells was sometimes employed by the town to survey land and lay out roads. An old pupil writes: "Within my remembrance Purchase Street was laid out. Where the electrics now run the Hales had an orchard of apple trees. I remember that Master Wells built the sidewalk on the east side of the street and that he did it in a scientific manner, putting in practice some of the theories that he had taught for years. It is about time that a sketch of the lives and times of the school-masters, Samuel Wells and Ebenezer Savory, was published for the benefit of the Historical Society."

Many of the pupils of Samuel Wells became masters of fishing and coasting vessels, while others commanded ships sailing to all parts of the earth. The Lunts, the Cheneys, the Goodwins, the Thurlows, the Hales, and a host of other sea-faring men learned their craft of him. Most of them have put out into an unknown sea for a port in a higher life, but some still linger in their own and other sea-washed towns, all with tender memories of their old teacher.

On the twelfth of November, 1803, Samuel Williams Wells married Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of Edward and Elizabeth (Fulford) Swasey of Newburyport, the Reverend John Giles officiating. Family and neighborhood traditions assert that they were the handsomest pair that ever walked

bride and groom into the "Old South Church." Beginning married life in the Swasey home on Liberty Street, they resided there till after the birth of the first child, when they set up their simple housekeeping in rented quarters, which were changed for others, as necessity dictated, till the death of Daniel Wells. At that time Samuel Williams Wells bought out the interest of his sisters and brother in the Wells homestead, and with his wife Elizabeth and his young children, took up his residence in the house built by his grandfather seventy years before. Here the younger children were born and the mother gave herself anew to the task, so common in New England towns of that day, of making both ends meet. For fifty years her husband was employed daily, and a large part of the time evenings, in giving of his knowledge, experience, and generous personality to the men and youth of his time; still his means were limited, barely sufficient to feed and clothe the nine children God gave to his care. At all times the rates of tuition, both public and private, were small, and many of his adult pupils were men without means, who paid but half their tuition on admission to the class, and having finished the course, went off to sea without further payment.

Elizabeth Swasey was a slender, erect woman, with dark hair and eyes and delicate features, who

held herself somewhat haughtily aloof from her neighbors, except where poverty or distress called for a helping hand. Happy in her husband and children, she gave herself to them, devoting her abundant energies and her share of what New England people call faculty to their needs. Never idle, she often sewed till a late hour, while her husband, exhausted with the work of the day and evening, and the violence of his cough, was persuaded to retire as soon as his last pupil had departed. Disturbed by the thought of the busy needle woman, he would frequently call out, "Come, Betsey, don't turn night into day," and otherwise gently admonish her of the danger of overwork. Of delicate constitution, the bearing and rearing of eight children proved too heavy a burden, and after the birth of the last child, the annual return of a low fever, which she had not strength to combat, finally induced consumption. She died on the first of November, 1833, at the age of fifty-four, when her youngest child was ten years old.

On the seventeenth of September, 1835, Samuel Williams Wells married Tamson Doyle, a widow, who bore him one son. After his mother's death, on the eighth of May, 1837, this boy became the peculiar care and treasure of every member of the household. Samuel Williams Wells died on the thirtieth of June, 1851.

From *Newburyport Herald* of July 1, 1851 :

Died, in this city, last evening, Mr. Samuel W. Wells, aged seventy-seven years. Mr. Wells was one of our most respected and worthy citizens, and in his younger days was eminent in this and the neighboring towns as an instructor of youth. He was probably the oldest teacher in the region, having been actively engaged in the duties of that profession for more than a half century.

"Men such as these a holy influence shed,
Their deeds when living, and their praise when dead."

Samuel Wells was a man of delicate constitution, refinement of speech and manner, simple piety, and uprightness of life. He writes in 1802, "Whatever your circumstances may be, still value your Bible as your best treasure, and whatsoever your employment, look upon Religion as your best business. Your Bible contains eternal life and all the riches of the upper world, and embracing Religion is the only way to become a possessor of them."

To a daughter away from home he writes in 1824, "Be circumspect in your behavior, kind and obliging to all, give no occasion to any to think you are light, airy, and vain, take God's word for the Man of your Counsel, read much in that best of Books, and remember, my dear Daughter, that Religion is the only thing that can support us in the



SAMUEL WILLIAMS WELLS

DAGUERRETYPE 1848



various trials and troubles that attend every one in this world. Try then to obtain Religion and you will be happy in time and eternity, which is the prayer of your affectionate parents."

And again to an absent son in 1847, "How much we have to praise God for. We are in the land of the living, this side of boundless Eternity, the day of grace is not yet past, we have yet time lent us to make our peace with our Maker and be made ready for another and better state of existence. Now for your long and dangerous journey East, there is an over-ruling Providence to protect all such as put their trust in him and go straight forward in the way of duty."

Three times a day, with unfailing regularity, Samuel Wells retired to his room, closed the door, and kneeling, gave himself to communion with God with all the faith and devotion of his Puritan ancestry; but, unlike many of the Puritans, he was neither sour nor grave. Handsome, smiling, genial, a ready talker and teller of stories, he attracted old and young alike, who delighted in his companionship even when the infirmities of age had weakened his powers. For several years before his death the cough, which had distressed him from early manhood, confined him to the house in cold weather. His time was spent in making toys and kitchen utensils—he had his share of Yankee in-

genuity in the use of the jack-knife—in reading and prayer, and in cheerful conversation with callers. With the disappearance of the snow he would creep out into the sunshine, spending much of his time watching the workmen in his neighbor Woodwell's ship-yard at the foot of the lane. At his first appearance the men would say, "Master's abroad and winter's broke."

When compelled by the infirmities of age to give up teaching, while strength lasted he cultivated land in the neighborhood of his home, raising onions for the market and a variety of garden vegetables for his own use. The great neatness which characterized his other work was manifest in this. His acres of onions with their vari-colored borders, absolutely free from weeds, thrived as if grateful for the care bestowed upon them. Even the bunching and packing of the onions for market were done with a nicety that distinguished the boxes from those of other growers.

In all his tasks Samuel Wells was the faithful and conscientious worker, winning the respect and confidence of all who dealt with him. To the poor and illiterate in his neighborhood he gave what he could spare from his substance, and largely of his labor. "Master, will you mend me a pen?" and "Master, will you write me a note?" were requests that he always granted with a gentle courtesy that never

disclosed disinclination or weariness. In the truest and broadest sense he was a Christian gentleman.

He was buried in the family lot in the newer portion of the old Newbury burying-ground, quite on the opposite side from the Daniel Wells lot, where his parents and grandparents were consigned to earth. In the summer of 1896, the children of Edward Wells marked his grave with a heavy slab of blue slate set horizontally, as was the custom many years ago, and inscribed with his name and the names of his wives and such of his children as were buried with him.

CHAPTER XV

THE SWASEYS

Elizabeth Swasey, the wife of Samuel Williams Wells, was the daughter of Edward and Elizabeth (Fulford) Swasey of Newburyport. The first man by the name of Swasey who came into this country was Joseph, who emigrated from England and settled in Salem, Massachusetts, in 1630. He was probably one of the eight hundred who came with Governor Winthrop, a Puritan who had been persecuted for his opinions at home, and hoped to find freedom in the new land across the sea. The Colonial records of Massachusetts state that he took the freeman's oath in Boston, in 1632. Among other children he had a son Joseph, born in Salem, October 13, 1653, who married Elizabeth Lambert, October 16, 1678, and in his turn had a son Joseph born in Salem in 1685. This Joseph Swasey moved to Newbury, Massachusetts, and on the tenth of May, 1711, married Elizabeth Sargent of that town. Their son Edward, born February 14, 1727, married Sarah Knight in 1749, and was the father of Edward Swasey, whose eldest daughter became the wife of Samuel Williams Wells.

Edward Swasey was the second child of Edward Swasey and Sarah Knight. He was born in Newbury on the second of August, 1752.

A time-stained paper, evidently a copy of the elder Edward Swasey's family record, found among the letters of a great-granddaughter after her death, gives the following information :

MY DEAR CHILDREN, BORN OF MY WIFE, SARAH
SWASEY.

John Swasey was born Sep 15th 1750

Edward was born August 2d 1752

Benjamin was born May 3d 1754

Ebenezer was born Oct 9th 1758

Joseph was born June 19th 1760

Jane Toppan was born May 5th 1762

Moses Bradstreet was born April 22d 1764

Nathaniel Swasey was born April 21st 1766

My Dear and loving wife Departed this life and left these Dear Children, she was 40 years old, and died January 22d, 1768.

I was Married to Abigail Pearson August 31st, 1768.

Sarah Knight was born . . . 15th 1769.

Moses Bradstreet Died very suddenly June the 25th 1769 he was 5 years old.

John died 1769.

Elizabeth Sargent was born December 17th 1771.

Moses Bradstreet was born Oct. 6th 1774

Moses Bradstreet died May 27th 1776

Elizabeth Sargent died Oct 11th 1801

My Honored Father died November 27th 1801
in his 75th year

My Mother Abigail Swasey March the 5th 1825
in her 85th year

Jane Toppan Died Oct 13th 1847

Ebenezer Swasey died Feb 10th 1851

Sarah Knight died March 4th 1856

Edward Swasey died Feb 12th 1840

Joseph died at sea

In 1775, Edward Swasey was corporal in Stephen Kent's company, in the service of Massachusetts, stationed at Newbury as a part of the coast guard. On the fourth of April, 1778, when he was twenty-six years old, he married Elizabeth, the daughter of Major John Fulford of Annapolis, Maryland, formerly of Boston and Marblehead.

John Fulford and Johanna Vickery, both of Marblehead, Massachusetts, were married on the tenth of October, 1755. The officiating clergyman was the Reverend Simon Bradstreet, and the wedding fee, as recorded, with the marriage, in the ancient records of the Second Church, two pounds, five shillings.

Elizabeth, the first child of this union, was born in Marblehead on the twenty-ninth of June, 1758.

At the age of eight her mother died. According to family tradition, the child was brought up by the father's aunt, who, on the twelfth of October, 1769, when Elizabeth was eleven years old, married for her third husband, John White, a wealthy trader of Boston. The Whites lived comfortably in a large mansion on Fleet Street, a quarter now given over to the foreign element, but then one of the finer residential localities, and Elizabeth Fulford, faring sumptuously, grew to beautiful womanhood in their home.

At the age of nineteen she went to Newburyport to visit with some relatives, and there met with Edward Swasey, a young cabinetmaker of the town. It was a case of love at first sight on his part, and, as his affection was returned in the course of time, but one obstacle remained in the way of their union. This was Aunt White's serious objection to a cabinetmaker, or indeed mechanic of any sort, as suitor for the hand of her beautiful niece. She had other and more ambitious plans.

The young people, it seems, did not find this obstacle insurmountable, for they were married in Newburyport, by the Reverend Thomas Cary, on the fourth of April, 1778. Deeply offended, so the story goes, Aunt White had no further intercourse with her niece, withholding forgiveness even in the hour of death. This romantic tale is without doubt

partially true, but two or three recorded facts prove its falsity in some particulars.

The marriage record to be found in the office of the city clerk, Newburyport, declaring that both the contracting parties were of that town, goes to prove that Elizabeth Fulford was not a visitor, but resident there at the time of her marriage, and Aunt White's will, to be found in the Registry of Probate of Suffolk County in Boston, establishes the forgiveness of her niece at least a year previous to her death.

This instrument, dated September 15, 1806, bequeaths "to Elizabeth Swasey of Exeter, daughter of my late nephew, John Fulford, four thousand dollars," and expresses the desire that her step-daughter, Hannah Webster, to whom she bequeaths the largest share of her property, shall dispose of such of her house furniture and clothing as she may think fit, in the family of the same Elizabeth Swasey.

Edward and Elizabeth Swasey began house-keeping in a quaint gambrel-roofed house on Liberty Street, Newburyport, narrow quarters for the ten sons and daughters who came to claim their love and care. Poor but industrious, upright, devout, they trained their children to habits of frugality and diligence, while bringing them up "in the fear of the Lord."

They belonged to the Old South Church, and were doubtless on terms of intimacy with Daniel Wells, whose son married their eldest daughter. In the vestry of the Old South Church may still be seen a plan of the original audience room, showing the seating arrangements—wall, floor, and free pews, seats for people of color, deacons' seats, and elders' seats; the space representing each pew containing the name and rank of the owner, and the date of purchase. On this old plan, in the square representing one of the floor pews, may be seen the name of Edward Swasey, with the date 1782, and the words fifth rank. A note on the margin explains that owners of the first rank paid £8: 6s for their pews, owners of the second rank, £6:15s; third, £5; fourth, £4:5s, and fifth, £3.

When about fifty years old, Edward Swasey bought the farm adjoining his brother's in Exeter, New Hampshire. Soon after this he sold land belonging to him in the center of Newburyport, where Salem Street was afterward cut through, and the James Mill erected, receiving in payment bank notes to the amount of one thousand dollars. With these notes it was his intention to cancel the mortgage on his farm, but neglecting the duty for a day or two, he went to perform it, only to be told that the bank had suspended payment and the notes were worthless. Edward Swasey's grandchildren,

now living, remember playing with those notes in childhood, buying imaginary treasures that no money, however genuine, can procure. So though they failed to lift the burden from the shoulders of a man bending under his load of labor, care, and increasing ill health, they served to bring into the plays of little children splendid things that no king of the Orient ever knew.

Aunt White died in 1807, bequeathing the sum of four thousand dollars to Elizabeth Swasey, but owing to shrinkage of the estate the amount received was smaller by four hundred dollars. In spite of this legacy the mortgage on the farm, held by a son-in-law, was never cancelled. Perhaps the little fortune was lost in the financial ruin that followed Jefferson's embargo.

RECEIPT OF ELIZABETH AND EDWARD SWASEY,
ACKNOWLEDGING PAYMENT OF LEGACY.

Whereas by the last Will and Testament of Sarah White late of Boston widow deceased the sum of four thousand dollars is bequeathed to Elizabeth Swasey wife of me the subscriber, we do hereby acknowledge to have received the same with the deduction of our proportion of the estimated changes that have arisen on and from said estate including the deficiency of said estate to pay legacies. And we do hereby acquit and discharge

Redford Webster the Executor of said last will and testament in full of said legacy.

EDWARD SWASEY.

ELIZABETH SWASEY.

Boston, November 5th 1808.

\$3600.00

As in Revolutionary days, in the War of 1812, Edward Swasey served with the home guards for the protection of the coast. He was at that time sixty years old. A granddaughter, Charlotte Smith Tucker, writes: "I have often heard mother speak of the time her father, with the others, was encamped on Portsmouth Plains awaiting the appearance of the British cruisers, which, it was said, were to bombard the forts at the entrance of the Piscataqua. The Britishers did not come, the signal lights were never lighted, and the militia returned to Exeter without having shown their powder; but they were as ready and willing to fight as any that went to the Canadian border." Many of the militia were pensioned for their service, but Edward Swasey neglected to apply. Many years after his death, when two daughters and a son had grown old and feeble and needed help, the father of Mrs. Tucker made an effort to bring up this matter in Washington; and later, Captain George Wallace Tucker, her husband, tried again through his friend who was pension agent, but without success.

The farmhouse in Exeter, with square rooms on either side a central hall, and roof sloping nearly to the ground in the rear, stood on rising ground by the side of a little river, the windows of the fore rooms looking across the stream to the mill and the spires of the village. When Elizabeth Swasey was old and too feeble to share in the household tasks, she spent the most of her time at one of these windows, her chair so placed that she might look down the road in the direction of Newburyport, the city of her love.

One of her grandchildren writes that she was an exceedingly pretty old lady, with sweet voice and pleasant ways, the friend of the little grandchildren who came frequently to play in the dear old barn. When she went abroad she wore a black silk pelisse, and a calash of green silk, over a white muslin cap, with full frill, and broad band of black ribbon—a figure as quaint and lovely as any Sir Joshua ever painted. “On the breaking up of the old home, these garments were found safely laid away by her interested household.”

Edward Swasey died, after years of suffering, from an incurable disease, on the twelfth of February, 1839, and Elizabeth, his wife, on the thirteenth of October, 1842.

The Swasey Bible contains the following record :

Born Edward Swasey August 1st 1752 Died
February 12th 1839 aged 87

Fulford

Elizabeth Wife Born June 29th 1758

Swasey

Elizabeth Swasey Born September the 19 -1779.

Sarah Swasey Born April 9th 1781 Died - - 1854.

Hannah Swasey Born May 10th 1783

Edward Swasey Born February 10th 1785

Charlotte Swasey Born January 12th 1790

Ruth R. Swasey Born March 4th 1792

William R. Swasey Born May 21st 1794

Benjamin Swasey Born April 4th 1796

-Ebenezer Swasey Born March 4th 1798 -

Sophia Swasey Born July 19th 1800

Hannah Died November 11th 1832 Aged 49

Elizabeth Died November 1st 1833 Aged 54

Edward Swasey Died February 12th -1839

Aged 87

Elizabeth Swasey Died October 13th - 1842

Aged 84

Benjamin Swasey died January 15th 1851

Aged 55

Sarah Swasey Lovering July 19th - 1854

Ruth R. Swasey died April 13th - 1870

Charlotte Smith died April 24th - 1870

Edward Swasey died August 12th - 1870

Sophia Swasey died Sept. 29 - 1872

The Bible containing this record is now in the possession of George Wells of Quincy, Illinois. It was printed in London in 1712, title page as follows :

The Holy Bible containing The Old Testament and the New, Newly translated out of the original tongues and with the former Translations diligently compared and revised. By His Majestie's Special Command Appointed to be read in Churches.

London.

Printed by the assigns of Thomas Newcomb and Henry Hills,
deceased : Printers to the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

M D C C X I I.

Though called in the family the Swasey Bible it seems to have belonged to Elizabeth Fulford, for at the end of the Prophets is her name written as follows :

Elizebeth Fullford

her book

With the exception of the record of births and marriages, there is no other writing in the book, except on the inside of a sheet of paper that has been pasted on the back of the title page for the purpose of strengthening it. By holding the page in a strong light one may read,

Property Elizabeth Fullford. containing 150 ca

The book is profusely illustrated with very quaint prints, many of them colored. It was rebound, as indicated by the gold stamp on the back of the cover, in 1826.

Sarah Swasey, the second daughter of Edward and Elizabeth (Fulford) Swasey, married Benjamin Lovering on the twenty-eighth of March, 1806. She bore him seven children, Sally White, who married William Tuffts Choate, and resided in Boston when Edward Wells was serving his apprenticeship, Elizabeth, Benjamin Orne, Mary Ann, Olevia Mead, Caroline C., and Charles Edward. The Loverings lived in considerable grandeur in a large house, shaded by noble elms, opposite Phillips Academy, Exeter. In her youth, the writer's mother, accustomed to the plain and narrow quarters of the old Wells homestead, in Newburyport, greatly enjoyed a visit with her Aunt Lovering, whom she remembers as a fair little woman who wore white gowns and entertained her guests with generous hospitality.

Hannah Swasey, third child of Edward and Elizabeth Swasey, married John Folsom. Among other children they had a son, John Fulford Folsom, who married Caroline Shaw. Their son, Al-

bert Alonzo, married Julia Elizabeth, daughter of Francis B. Winter, of Boston. Albert Alonzo Folsom, past commander of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, and a prominent railroad man, has a beautiful home in Brookline, Massachusetts, and an office in Boston. His name and fame are inseparably connected with the history of the Boston and Providence Railroad, of which he was superintendent for many years.

Edward, Ruth Rogers, and Sophia, fourth, sixth, and tenth of the children of Edward and Elizabeth Swasey, were never married, and remained in the home nest cultivating the farm till old age and failing health unfitted them for labor. The writer's mother characterizes Uncle Ned as a bluff and hearty farmer, with a quaint humor that never failed him even in his time of old age and illness. Aunt Ruth was a sweet and motherly woman, never unduly elated by good fortune nor cast down by ill, but gentle in all the vicissitudes of life. Somewhat reticent with strangers, Aunt Sophia had the reputation of being haughty, and indeed all the daughters of this family inherited from their mother the aristocratic bearing that seems to have been a peculiarity of the Fulford race.

Aunt Sophia and Aunt Ruth lived very happily together, and made the farmhouse a pleasant place

for their bachelor brother, and for the numerous nephews and nieces who frequently visited with them. Everything in and about the house was kept in spotless order. The aged mother, smiling, was wont to say, "Our Soph will wear my silver all out," and might have repeated the remark about everything rubbable on the place.

Edward and Mary Wells were very fond of the occupants of the old farm, and never failed to spend at least a day out of their annual sojourn east, in their company, carrying with them substantial tokens of their love. It was the custom of the ladies of the old house, when they heard a carriage approaching far down the road, to slip out of the neat working costume into something more appropriate for "company," and present themselves unruffled by the time the carriage reached the door. The famous view across the river to the peaceful village beyond, was not more smiling and serene than were these two sisters as they stood to receive unexpected guests. At the age of seventy-eight dear Aunt Ruth slipped out of the earthly robing into the heavenly, Uncle Edward following her in four months at the age of eighty-five, and Aunt Sophia in two years at the age of seventy-eight.

Charlotte, the fifth child of Edward and Elizabeth Swasey, married John Smith on the tenth of

May, 1812, and bore him five children, Edward Swasey, Mary Elizabeth, Sarah, Charles, and Charlotte Ann. John Smith was well-to-do and his wife, a very erect woman with a proud air, lived in a style befitting a daughter of the Fulfords. Their home was in the aristocratic quarter of the old town of Portsmouth, near enough to the Swasey homestead in Exeter for frequent visits. The youngest daughter, seventy-seven years old, writes: "My recollections of Grandma Swasey are very distinct. Living as we did so short a distance from the farm, we as children were there very often, especially in summer. I remember going to town with grandma shopping, also of her indulgence in allowing me to hunt for eggs with her in that dear old barn, where we children with others had such good times in the hay." Uncle Smith held the mortgage on the farm, and was very helpful to the old people, who never succeeded in lifting it. Sarah, who married Lyttleton M. Loughton on the twenty-sixth of May, 1858, and Charlotte Ann, who married Captain George Wallace Tucker, May 21, 1846, now live together in a fine old mansion on State Street, Portsmouth. The writer spent a pleasant day with them in the summer of 1897. They were seventy-nine and seventy-six years old, respectively. The writer greatly enjoyed the gracious sweetness of

Mrs. Loughton and the vivacity of Mrs. Tucker, whose years did not prevent her doing the honors of the town, reciting its history, and talking brilliantly on the questions of the day.

SMITH FAMILY RECORD

John Smith married Charlotte Swasey, May 10, 1812.

Issue, Edward Swasey Smith, born July 16, 1813, died February 18, 1850.

Mary Elizabeth Smith, born August 28, 1815, died unmarried, August 8, 1871.

Sarah Smith, born March 9, 1818.

Charles Smith, born August 8, 1820, died August 29, 1820.

Charlotte Ann Smith, born June 18, 1821.

Edward Swasey Smith married Elizabeth Bachelder June 26, 1838.

Issue, Ellen Moore Smith, born August 15, 1839, died unmarried, May 21, 1863.

Kate Fulford Smith, born January 20, 1847, died January 26, 1852.

Eleza Fomm Smith, born May 17, 1849, died April 7, 1852.

Sarah Smith married Lyttleton M. Loughton, May 26, 1858. No issue.

Charlotte Ann Smith married Captain George Wallace Tucker, May 21, 1846.

Issue, Mary Wallace Tucker, born January 7, 1848.

John Edward Tucker, born June 5, 1854.

Edith Linda Tucker, born December 13, 1856, died March 31, 1884.

Ellen Smith Tucker, born January 9, 1863.

Mary Wallace Tucker married Micajah Pope, December 22, 1870.

Issue, Micajah Wallace Pope, born March 29, 1873.

John Edward Tucker married Mary W. Seymour, October 7, 1885. No issue.

Edith Linda Tucker married Alexander Davidson, May 29, 1882.

Issue, Alexander Wallace Davidson, born April 17, 1883, died October 31, 1891.

Ellen Smith Tucker married Henry Chalfant Gearing, January 16, 1884.

Issue, Charlotte Chalfant Gearing, born in Annapolis, Maryland, January 18, 1885.

Henry Gearing, born in Dorchester, Massachusetts, January 22, 1887.

Frederick Gearing, born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, January 20, 1889.

Mary Gearing, born in Annapolis, Maryland, December 27, 1890.

Micajah Gearing, born in Annapolis, Maryland, September 7, 1892, died April 3, 1895.

Wallis Gearing, born in Annapolis, Maryland, November 19, 1893.

Hilyer Fulford Gearing, born in Annapolis, Maryland, September 23, 1897.

Henry Chalfant Gearing, born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, June 9, 1855, is a lieutenant in the United States navy and resides in a house within the precincts of the naval academy at Annapolis, where his last four children were born. His cruises are of three years' duration and after each he is entitled to three years of shore duty.

William Rogers, the seventh child of Edward and Elizabeth Swasey, was a sailor. While still a young man he went on a voyage, from which he never returned. The vessel was never heard from, and it was supposed that all on board were lost.

The writer has been able to gather but little concerning Benjamin and Ebenezer, eighth and ninth of the children of Edward and Elizabeth Swasey. Benjamin married Caroline Barker and raised a

numerous family of children, of whom Barker and Lucy were favorite cousins of the writer's mother. Lucy married Nathan Kimball, who settled in Haverhill and became mayor of that thriving town. Both he and his wife, as well as Barker Swasey, have been dead many years.

Ebenezer Swasey went to Meredith, New Hampshire, where he opened a country store. He married, had a large family, and with the lapse of years lost touch with his brothers and sisters. The last heard of him was in Mrs. Tucker's girlhood, when a son, grown to manhood, spent a few hours in her father's house.



Fulford

CHAPTER XVI

THE FULFORDS

The Fulford family is of Saxon origin, and derives its name from the place of its ancient residence and possessions in Devonshire, England.

Fulford, better known in modern times as Great Fulford, the cradle of the race and the seat of the family since the Conquest, is nine miles southwest of Exeter, in the parish of Dunsford. Fulford House, the family mansion for centuries, is in a state of excellent preservation, although built early in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Some parts of the venerable pile are of even greater antiquity. It is an imposing structure, standing on rising ground near a beautiful sheet of water, in the midst of a fine landscape. During the Civil War, Sir Francis Fulford converted it into a military fortress and garrisoned it in behalf of King Charles, but it was finally taken by the parliamentary forces under Sir Thomas Fairfax, after a siege of two weeks, without being destroyed.

The present occupant of this fine old mansion is Francis D. Fulford, son of the late Right Reverend

Francis Fulford, D.D., Bishop of Montreal, Canada. He was born in Montreal, and resided there till the death of Baldwin Fulford, Esq., of Fulford, whose heir he was. He is magistrate of Devon, lord of the manor of Dunsford, and patron of one living. His manor is thus referred to in the ancient records:

“Dunsford. Poter Quivill, Bishop of Exon, did sometime hold this Mannor; afterwards it did belong to Canonslegh Priory; after the Dissolution, Sir John Fulford got this Mannor.”

The name of Fulford is conspicuous in the history of the English crusades in the twelfth century. Sir Amias and Sir Baldwin shared in these romantic adventures and achieved personal distinction in the Holy Land. The latter, a Knight of the Sepulchre, gained renown by the courage and valor which he displayed in a memorable combat with a giant Saracen, as well as by the victory which he won over the infidel. The contest involved the honor and the liberty of a lady in a besieged castle; and the whole affair forms a curious and interesting chapter of romance and chivalry in the history of that age. In commemoration of this heroic achievement, two Saracens were made supporters of the arms of the Fulfords. The old records thus speak of Sir Baldwin:

“Of the Fulfords of the Mannor of Dunsford was

one Sir Baldwin of deserved Memory. Records testify that for the Honour and Liberty of a Royal Lady in a Castle besieged, he fought a Combate with a Sarazen for Growth an unequal Match, as the Representation Sheweth, and obtained Victory by the Death of his Opponent."

The Fulfords were descended from English monarchs of the royal house of the Plantagenets, and were connected with the Gilberts, the Raleighs, the Gorges, and nearly all the noble and distinguished families in the west of England. Westcote, the old historian, speaks of "the knightly and dignous family of Fulford," and says he had seen evidence of the great state and splendor of the family in the age of Richard Cœur de Lion. "This right antient and honourable family," says Prince, about 1700, "have held this seat by the name of Fulford from the days of King Richard the First to this day, upwards of five hundred years." In all reigns members of this family have been distinguished in military and naval enterprises, as well as in offices of church and state.

In the reign of the sixth Edward, Arthur Champernowne married Bridget, daughter of Sir Thomas Fulford of Fulford. The family of Champernowne in antiquity and splendor of descent is surpassed by few if any in the west of England. Like the Fulford family it was connected with the royal house of the Plantagenets, and the ancient families of which

Sir Humphrey Gilbert and Sir Walter Raleigh were noble sons. The alliance with the old and knightly family of Fulford issued in six sons and seven daughters. Of these the ninth child and youngest son was Francis Champernowne, who was destined to share in the perils and fortunes of colonizing the New World, and to leave his name in the early records of New England. When he was scarcely six years old an event in his mother's family, with great probability, determined his future career. The celebrated Sir Ferdinando Gorges, commander of the royal defences of Plymouth for thirty-three years, married for his second wife, Mary Fulford, a sister of Bridget, mother of Francis Champernowne.

Every student of history recalls Sir Ferdinando's intense interest in the establishment of English colonies in America, an interest fostered if not created by his intercourse with Sir Walter Raleigh, who was still looking to the New World for the aggrandizement of England after his own enterprises had failed. Sir Ferdinando was the founder of the state of Maine. For forty years he labored to establish settlements along its rocky shore, by his tireless energy obtaining grant after grant, and patent after patent, and sending out party after party of the bold and brilliant men of Devonshire to subdue the wilderness in the interests of England.

That Francis Champernowne, who was a favorite

nephew of his Aunt Gorges, and to whom Sir Ferdinando always referred, even in formal documents, as "my trusty and well-beloved nephew," should have shared Sir Ferdinando's enthusiasm, is hardly a matter of surprise; and that he should have ventured across the sea and into the wilderness is what one might expect of a youth who had been brought up on tales of the high daring of his kinsmen, Gilbert and Raleigh, and the sea triumphs of England in Elizabeth's great reign. He went to New England in 1637.

"Gorges made grants of land lying within his province of Maine to persons who hastened to take possession, coming themselves or sending their agents." "He sent to Maine his countrymen and his kindred." "His second son, Captain Robert Gorges, was appointed by the Council for New England governor of its dominions in America, in 1623." "Sir Ferdinando made grants to Captain Champernowne and his cousin Gorges about Agamenticus." They came over in 1637. "On the death of Sir Ferdinando in 1647 his grandson, Ferdinando Gorges, Esq., succeeded him as lord proprietor of the Province of Maine."

In 1667 we find Richard Fulford living at a place called Round Pond, on Muscongus Bay, not far from the present town of Bristol. It was a part of the wide domain assigned to Sir Ferdinando in 1635.

It is probable that Richard Fulford's father was one of Sir Ferdinando's "kindred" whom he sent to Maine. He may have come over with Captain Champernowne, whose mother was Bridget Fulford, or with Robert Gorges, Sir Ferdinando's second son. But the writer has tried in vain to find proof of the connection of Richard Fulford with the Fulfords of Great Fulford. Captain Albert Alonzo Folsom, great-grandson of Elizabeth (Fulford) Swasey, has communicated with the present master of Great Fulford, who writes that in all probability Richard Fulford's father was a younger son of his house, but that owing to the destruction of the family records when the mansion was besieged in the days of Cromwell, it would be impossible to furnish proof.

Richard Fulford married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Pearce. Richard Pearce was the son of John Pearce, who was a member of the Plymouth Company, of which Sir Ferdinando Gorges was the head and front. It is well known that when the Plymouth colony arrived on the coast of Massachusetts in 1620, they were without a charter, or rather, the charter they had obtained from the London Company was useless, for the reason that they had come so far to the north as to be beyond the jurisdiction of that company. They therefore, by the return of the Mayflower, made application for a charter from the Plymouth Company, or rather,

from the successor of this company, now styled the Council for New England. This charter was readily granted, and was issued June 1, 1621, in the name of John Pearce, "citizen and cloth-worker of London," and his associates. It was brought to Plymouth in the ship *Fortune*, which arrived in November, 1621. It gave to John Pearce and his associates, and his and their heirs and assigns, one hundred acres of "grownd" for every person who should be transported by them and continue in the country three years; with a long detail of limitations, restrictions and conditions. Less than a year after the issuing of this patent, Mr. Pearce obtained another, which produced considerable dissatisfaction among his associates, but in May, 1623, the difficulty was settled by his resigning the patent to the company for the consideration of £500.

Some months prior to this, John Pearce had at great expense fitted out the ship *Paragon* and dispatched her with many settlers for Plymouth; but being forced back by the weather, he, at great additional expense, again fitted her for sea, and embarked in her himself with one hundred and nine passengers. Unfortunately, after making half the distance across the Atlantic, she was again obliged to return, and after the selling of his patent, Pearce's name no more appears in connection with Plymouth colony. That his son, Richard Pearce, who came

to America about this time with John Brown, his father-in-law, settled in Pemaquid rather than Plymouth, is perhaps due to the fact that John Pearce's second patent was unsatisfactory to the Pilgrims. Though the writer has been unable to connect the children of Edward Wells with the heroic and devoted band who landed on Plymouth Rock in 1620, she has discovered that they are directly descended from the man in whose name their charter was issued, and who was one of the forty to advance the money for their reinforcement and continued nourishment. The line of descent is as follows:

John Pearce.

Richard Pearce married Elizabeth Brown.

Elizabeth Pearce married Richard Fulford.

Francis Fulford married Elizabeth

Preserved Fulford married Mary Cruff.

John Fulford married Johanna Vickery.

Elizabeth Fulford married Edward Swasey.

Elizabeth Swasey married Samuel Williams Wells.

Edward Wells married Mary Babson Evans.

It may be that Richard Pearce, with John Brown, his father-in-law, came to America in an expedition sent out by John Pearce immediately after the second disastrous return of the Paragon, in 1623. He settled at Pemaquid, now Bristol, where John Brown, on the fifteenth of July, 1625, purchased a

large tract of land of two Indian sagamores for fifty skins. John Brown had several children, among them Elizabeth, who was married to Richard Pearce soon after his emigration. It has been conjectured that the marriage was contracted before the party sailed. Not much is known of Richard Pearce except that he resided at Pemaquid, was a carpenter, had a large family, and that John Brown, his father-in-law gave him a portion of his land. Instead of giving a deed of this tract to Richard Pearce he required the sachem Samoset to do it, although Samoset had sold all Pemaquid to him sixteen years before. This is the curious old instrument :

Know all men by these Prests, That I Capt John Summerset a Sagamore Indian of several lands near Joyning unto Round Pondsfalls by the name of Remobcose trenched away five miles Eastward four miles N. West So back to Pemeyquid River uplands & meadow and Islands & Ilets containing to about twelve miles for and in consideration I do own myself my Heirs, Execurs admrs & assigns be fully paid and sattisfied before the signing hereof; Have Given, Granted, Bargained & Sold, by these Prests do absolutely Give Grant & Bargaine and sell unto Richard Pearce, Carpenter of Remobcose which is called by the English Musconus his Heirs and assigns for Ever these Parcels of land and medows Joyning to

the Round Pond falls medows, Swamp, falls Upland Timber and Trees woods undr woods mines, & all other Priviledges belonging unto his Bounds, for the foresd Richard Pearce his Heirs, Execurs Admrs and assigns to peaceably Enjoy forever free and clear of and from all former or later bargens Or sailes or Mortgages or Incumbrances whatsoever with quiate and peaceable Possession as witness my Hand & seal, this ninth Day of January in 1641.

Sign'd, Sealed & Delivered
with a Turf & Twigg given in
behalf of Possesion of ye whole
before us witness
Our Hands
John Browne Richd Shoote

John Summerset Sagemr
his X mark
Easey Gale Sagmore
his X mark SEAL
Dick Swalks Sager
his X mark

One hundred years later, some of the heirs of Richard Pearce made this deed the basis of their claim to the large tract of land in Lincoln County, Maine, in it described. They bought out the right of many of the heirs, including that of the Fulfords of Marblehead, and made a vigorous but unsuccessful attempt to establish their claim.

The names of nine of Richard Pearce's children have been preserved. They are Richard, John, Joseph, Elizabeth, George, Margaret, Francis, Sarah, and Mary. Elizabeth became the wife of Richard Fulford.

According to an old deposition dated November 29, 1717, "Richard Fullford & his wife Lived on a

place Called Round pound fronting against Misconcus Island to ye Eastward above fifty years agoe.” The deponent, Morrice Champny of Marblehead, further testifies that Richard Fulford “had a house on sd Land how much Land he had I know not and that I and Richard Pearce now Liveing in Marblehead Mowed on ye Meadow Land Severall years for sd Richard Fullford and that ye sd Richard Fullford & his wife & family Lived on sd Land of Round pound many years together till ye Indian Enemy drove them from thence.”

In 1667 then, Richard Fulford was living at Round Pond, and in the same year we find that he deeded lands in that locality to Humphrey Horrel or Harrell. Between 1667 and 1687 he was driven from his home by the Indians. In the time of King Philip's war, 1676, a sort of frenzy seized all the tribes of New England. The eastern Indians took up the hatchet, and terrorized the settlements on the coast of Maine. Many of the settlers fled, among them Richard Pearce, Richard Fulford's father-in-law, who procured a vessel and removed his family to Marblehead, Massachusetts. Richard Fulford probably went with him, but in 1687 he returned, for on the twenty-ninth of November, 1717, John Pearce, his brother-in-law, testifies, “About Thirty Years agoe I knew ye sd Richard Fullford and family remove to ye abovesd Land of Round pound

where he first Lived and that he then Also built a house & Lived then about five or Six Years till ye Indian Enemy drove him and family thence the Second time."

Round Pond must have been a part of Jamestown, for in the time of the tyranny of Andros—1686 to 1689—Richard Fulford's name was on the tax-list of that settlement. Jamestown was in the neighborhood of the fort on Pemaquid Point. As early as 1686 the part of Jamestown, near the fort, was called Newtown, while some other part which has not been determined was called Oldtown.

Taxes under Governor Andros. Town Rate of Jamestown (Newtown) Maine.

Richard Fulford	£—: 1 : 8	} —: 2 : 2
2 Cowes	£—:—: 6	

Driven from his home a second time in 1692, Richard Fulford returned, only to be driven out again in 1696. He is next heard from in Marblehead, Massachusetts, whither his wife's father had conveyed his family in the time of King Philip's war. It is probable that Richard Fulford, with his wife and children, joined the Pearces in the little fishing hamlet in the Bay Colony at the time of his third withdrawal from Round Pond.

According to the deposition quoted above, Elizabeth Pearce bore Richard Fulford but two children, Francis and Elizabeth. Elizabeth mar-

ried Samuel Martin, one of the bold and hardy fishermen of Marblehead, on the sixth of January, 1697. That the son of Richard Fulford bore a name common among the Fulfords of Great Fulford, and distinguishing the head of the house in the time of Richard Fulford's father, still further strengthens the claim to connection with that fine old family. Sir Francis Fulford of Great Fulford may have been Richard Fulford's grandfather.

Francis Fulford was a fisherman. His wife's name was Elizabeth. The books of the Second Church of Marblehead contain the names of seven of his children, but the town books, which are very incomplete, record only the birth of his eldest son.

FROM THE TOWN RECORD

Born Nov. 28, 1712, John Fulford son of Francis and Elizabeth Fulford.

FROM SECOND CHURCH RECORDS

Preserved son of Francis and Elizabeth Fulford was baptized 26 December 1714.

June 9, 1717, birth of Elizabeth daughter of Francis and Elizabeth Fulford.

June 7, 1724, birth of Francis son of Francis and Elizabeth Fulford.

Aug. 21, 1726, birth of Henry son of Francis and Elizabeth Fulford.

Feb. 23, 1729, birth of Sarah daughter of Francis and Elizabeth Fulford.

Sept. 19, 1731, birth of Samuel son of Francis and Elizabeth Fulford.

March 10, 1734, birth of Mary daughter of Francis and Elizabeth Fulford.

In 1717 Richard Pearce, the grandfather of Francis Fulford, died intestate, and Richard Pearce of Marblehead, John Pearce of Manchester, and George Pearce of Beverly, his sons, and Francis Fulford and Elizabeth Martin, his grandchildren, settled his estate by mutual agreement. Francis Fulford and Elizabeth Martin received "fifty Acres of upland fronting to ye water Side near ye Spott of Land where ye Dwelling house of our Said father Stood A peace to Each of them with five acres of fresh Meadow Apeice And five Acres of Salt marsh Apeice as Their Mothers part and portion Allso ye Sixth part of ye Stream for to Set up A mill or mills Thereupon." This land was "in Misconcas Scituate Lying and Being to ye Eastward or on ye Backside of pemaquid."

Francis Fulford and his sister Elizabeth Martin inherited, besides, one-half of Hogg Island "Lying in Misconcus River Lying against Misconcus Harbour Lying to ye Northward of ye Lands of pemaquid to ye Eastward."

Francis Fulford bought a "mansion house" in Marblehead on the twelfth of October, 1721, of John Harel, probably a descendant of Humphrey Harrel of Muscongus, to whom Richard Fulford deeded lands fifty-four years before. On the third of October, 1726, Francis Fulford and his wife Elizabeth sold their mansion house and garden for the sum of £310. Francis Fulford died, probably at sea, in 1741, and his eldest son John in 1743. Elizabeth, wife of the former and mother of the latter, administered both estates, and Captain Welshman was a bondsman.

Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of Francis and Elizabeth Fulford, married William Welshman, a sea-captain, who carried fish and oil to the ports of Europe, and brought back manufactured goods and rich stuffs in exchange.

Mrs. Tucker and Mrs. Loughton of Portsmouth, great-great-grandnieces of Madam Welshman, are the proud owners of her portrait, painted by Greenwood, and the portrait of Captain Welshman, painted by an unknown artist in London in 1737. Till the death of Sophia, the last of the Swaseys, in 1872, these heirlooms hung in the "best room" of the Swasey homestead in Exeter. They probably fell to Elizabeth (Fulford) Swasey on the death of her grandaunt, Sarah White, in 1807. Sarah White was Madam Welshman's sister. The por-

traits are very large, the color, especially in that of Captain Welshman, remarkably rich and beautiful, and the surface but little cracked. They have evidently been well kept.

Correct in drawing, soft in outline, superb in coloring, and remarkably lifelike in expression, the London portrait is plainly the work of a master. Captain Welshman stands with one hand grasping a spyglass and the thumb of the other stuck in his sword belt. He wears a black velvet coat, with white lace frills at the wrist, and a yellow silk waistcoat, buttoned to the throat, but showing a high turn-over collar and a white lace neckerchief. A white wig adorns the shapely head, and handsome brown eyes, a straight nose, and curved lips make the face attractive. The general appearance brings to mind some of the portraits of Washington.

The Greenwood portrait shows the faults of the artist in a marked degree. Greenwood painted everybody of means in the Bay Colony, and did some very good work, but this was one of his earliest efforts and lacks the finish of his later work. It depicts Madam Welshman as a stately lady of fine figure and erect carriage. A blue silk dress cut low in front shows a beautiful neck, and elbow sleeves display a well-formed arm. Frills of pale blue tarlatan finish neck and sleeves. A string of gold beads held in the shapely hands and a pink

silk cloak draped about the figure complete the graceful costume. The artist has depicted no special beauty of feature in this colonial dame, but he has preserved for us the prideful bearing that family tradition ascribes to the women of the Fulford race.

Captain Welshman lived in Boston. His son William was a Latin School boy in 1748. The fact that his wife's death is recorded in the King's Chapel register (1755) renders it probable that the Welshmans belonged to that parish. Captain Welshman died at sea in August, 1772.

Sarah, the second daughter of Francis and Elizabeth Fulford, was the Aunt Sarah White, whose favorite nephew was Major John Fulford, and who remembered her grandniece Elizabeth (Fulford) Swasey in her will. Her first husband was Elis Compton, captain of the ship *Endeavour*, Boston to Lisbon. She became his bride on the twenty-third of September, 1753. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mather Byles of Christ Church, Boston. It is probable that Sarah was residing or visiting with her sister, Madam Welshman, at the time of her marriage, and why the twain were not made one by the rector of King's Chapel does not appear. Madam Compton accompanied her husband on some of his voyages. She was in Lisbon in 1761,

and again in 1764. A copy of Pope's Essay, which belonged to her, is thus inscribed :

"Joseph Coles Junr presents this Book to Mrs. Compton as a token of remembrance. Lisbon the 20 th. May 1764, the day Mrs. Compton embarks for America."

At that time Madam Compton was a widow, for she was made the wife of John Tyler by the Rev. Andrew Eliot on the eighteenth of September of that year. No record of the death of Captain Compton has been found. He probably died at sea. He was a Mason, and his name is found in a list of the guests at a Masonic banquet in 1755.

Aunt Sarah, as Madam Tyler, resided on Hawkins Street in Boston. Soon widowed a second time, she married John White, a wealthy trader, on the twelfth of October, 1769, her minister, the Rev. Andrew Eliot, again officiating. John White was ten years her senior, a widower, whose daughter married Redford Webster, and is referred to in Madam White's will as "my daughter-in-law, Hannah Webster." The Whites lived in considerable elegance on Fleet Street, near Hanover. Captain Folsom, a great-great-grandnephew of Madam White, has seen not only the copy of Pope's Essay above referred to, but some of her silver and furniture, now in possession of Mrs. T. I. Lothrop of Boston, granddaughter of Hannah Webster. Aunt White died in 1807.

Preserved Fulford, second son of Francis and Elizabeth, according to the records of the Second Church of Marblehead, married Mary Cruff on the twenty-fifth of November, 1730. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Edward Holyoke. Mary Cruff was the daughter of John and Mary Cruff. Her father died in about a year from the time of her marriage, leaving a widow and several children, all minors except Mary. His estate was administered in December, 1731. A schooner was sold for £280. His house, land, and barn were worth £220, and his pew in the New Meeting House, afterward called the Second Church, £26. He was quite well-to-do for the sea-faring man of that time and place. Preserved Fulford is of special interest to the readers of this book, because he was the great-great-grandfather of Edward Wells, though the writer has been able to ascertain but little concerning him. He was probably a mariner and was lost at sea previous to 1740, for the records of the Second Church declare that Mary Fulford, widow of Preserved Fulford, was admitted to the church March 2, 1740. He seems to have left to the care of his wife but one child, John Fulford, baptized, according to the Second Church books, on the fourteenth of August, 1737.

DESCENT FROM JOHN FULFORD, OF THE ARMY OF THE REVOLUTION.

John Fulford, b. 1737,
m.
Johanna Vickery.

Elizabeth, b. 1758. m. Edward Swasey.	John, b. 1761.	Sarah, b. 1763.	Sarah, b. 1765.	Preserved, b. 1766.
II				
Elizabeth, b. 1779, m. Samuel Williams Wells.	Sarah, b. 1781.	Hannah, b. 1783.	Edward, b. 1785.	Charlotte, b. 1790.
			Ruth Rogers, b. 1792.	William Rogers, b. 1794.
				Benjamin, b. 1796.
				Ebenezer, b. 1798.
				Sophia, b. 1800.
III				
Eliza Fulford, b. 1804.	Hannah, b. 1806.	Almira, b. 1807.	Samuel, b. 1810.	Edward Swasey, b. 1813, m. Mary Babson Evans.
				Nathaniel, b. 1816.
				William, b. 1819.
				Lucy Jane, b. 1823.
IV				
Eliza Ann, b. 1838.	Mary Eliza, b. 1840.	Edward, b. 1841.	Harriet, b. 1844.	George, b. 1846.
			Frank, b. 1849.	Ella, b. 1852.
				Kate, b. 1857.

CHAPTER XVII

JOHN FULFORD

John Fulford was the great-grandfather and Revolutionary ancestor of Edward Wells. His father died before he was three years old, and his mother soon afterward. Nothing is known of his boyhood. On the tenth of October, 1755, he married Johanna Vickery, who bore him four children. Their births are thus recorded in the books of the Second Church of Marblehead, Mass. :

Births. July 2, 1758 Elizabeth of John and Hannah Fulford.

July 12, 1761 John of John and Hannah Fulford.

July 24, 1763 Sarah of John and Hannah Fulford.

May 26, 1765 Sarah of John and Hannah Fulford.

Nov. 2, 1766, Preserved of John and Hannah Fulford.

It does not create surprise that John Fulford, brought up in seagirt Marblehead, and son and grandson of bold and hardy mariners, should have

turned to the sea to obtain a livelihood. It is very probable that he made his first voyages with Captain Welshman or Captain Compton, brothers-in-law of his father; but when he became master of a vessel, his trips were made from Marblehead, Salem, and Boston to the West Indies.

His wife died soon after the birth of her son Preserved, and on the twenty-ninth of June, 1769, he married Eleanor, daughter of Thomas and Sarah Bodkin of Boston. The ceremony was performed in Christ Church, by the Rev. Mather Byles, Jr. Captain Fulford probably took his bride to his home in Marblehead, for the books of St. Michael's, the ancient Episcopal Church of that town, record the baptism of Mary Fulford, daughter of John and Eleanor Fulford, on the twenty-ninth of April, 1770. Soon after this, Captain Fulford removed to Boston, for on the fifteenth of June, 1772, Henry, the second child, was born in that town, as was the third child, Thomas, on the twenty-ninth of September, 1774.

On the ninth of December, 1773, Captain Fulford was made a Mason by St. Andrew's Lodge, the oldest Masonic body in Boston. Just one week later the tea was destroyed in Boston Harbor. As St. Andrew's had a hand in this work, there were but five members at the Lodge on the eventful night, Captain Fulford was not one of these, but

he appeared the following night, when sixteen reported present. There is reason to believe that he, with his brother Masons, helped draw the tea for the Boston Tea-party. He passed the Second Degree on the thirteenth of July, 1774.

Soon after this, in consequence of the Boston Port Bill, he began to sail from southern ports—Baltimore, Annapolis, and Alexandria; and the outbreak of the Revolution found him in Annapolis. He enlisted in the “Flying Camp” of Maryland. His practical knowledge of gunnery, obtained perhaps in encounters with pirates in his voyages to the West Indies, brought him to the notice of the Council of Safety of Maryland, who made him captain and then major of artillery, and gave him the command of the defenses at Annapolis. The Journal of the Council of Safety makes frequent mention of John Fulford. The following paragraphs are quoted from its pages :

“Friday 9 February 1776 Commission issued to John Fulford appointed Captain of a Company of Matrosses to be stationed at the City of Annapolis.”

“Ordered That the Treasurer of the Western Shore pay to Capt. John Fulford two hundred Pounds common Money for Subsist and advance Money for his Recruits.”

From a letter written by Samuel Purviance to the Council, Feb. 17, 1776: "Mr. Danl Hughes is very anxious to have some person appointed to go to Antitem to prove the guns which his brother has cast. I apprehend Capt Fulford is the best qualified to do it of any person here."

On Tuesday the twentieth of February, 1776, the Council ordered that Captain Fulford be appointed to perform this duty, sending him the following letter:

TO CAPTAIN FULFORD.

Sir:

From an Opinion of your Knowledge of Cannon we have thought proper to appoint you to prove those to be supplied this Province by Mess. Saml & Danl Hughes and request you will immediately repair for that Purpose to their works at Antietam. We enclose you an Order on the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of Frederick County for what Powder may be wanting and will defray any Expense you may necessarily incur in that Service. The Commission to Mr Massenbach to be your second Lieutenant you will please to deliver to him and give him proper Instructions how to act with regard to the Company of Matrosses during your Absence.

21 Feby 1776

But on the 27th of February, 1776, the "Order of the 20th Instant to Captain Fulford was superseded by Reason of his necessary Attendance to his Duty here and Mr. George Matthews and Captain Nathaniel Smith were appointed in his place."

From a letter from the Baltimore Committee to the Council of Safety.

"The Committee beg leave to submit to your consideration whether (as you have no Artillery at Annapolis) it would not be adviseable to station Capt Fulford's Company of Matrosses in this place. That gentleman's knowledge as a gunner may be of much service to us."

On Saturday, the 6th of July, 1776, the "Council Ordered That Capt Nathl Smith be required to deliver to Capt John Fulford 9 Cannon of 9 Pounders already mounted upon Carriages with all the necessary apparatus thereto belonging and a sufficient quantity of Balls for said Cannon."

On the eleventh of July, 1776, representatives of a society called the Associators of the City of Annapolis, appeared before the Council to petition for further protection for the city. It was "Ordered that the said Committee be informed that Capt Fulford has received Orders to employ as many men for the Protection of the City as can conveniently work on the Intrenchments."

On the sixteenth of the following month it was

“Ordered that Captain John Fulford be empowered to purchase & provide a Scow, Boats, and Intrenching Tools sufficient to carry on, prosecute and complete the Fortifications at Annapolis.”

It seems that Captain Fulford's company, engaged in the difficult work of building fortifications and planting batteries, were dissatisfied with the compensations they received. The Maryland Archives have preserved their petition, which for quaintness of syntax and orthography can hardly be excelled. It is as follows:

Annapolis, Sept. 18th 1776

The humble Petition of Captain John Fulfords
Company the Royal Train of Artillery or
second Maryland Matross's Humbly sheweth

That your worthy Patriots that is filled with a due sense of Liberty and was enlisted under the Banners of the same; and is ready to advance into the Field at a Moments Call, and there to fight our daring Foes in the present Cause, and behalf of America and in the highest Spirits, like the bold Soldier willing to go to the Field conquering and to conquer, undaunted like Tyrants, not fearing to die, you will give them a Hearing

Gentlemen—From the great Vivacity and Confidence that we repose in your Honours, We hope therefore that you will allow us most Honourable Gentlemen, an Addition to our Pay in order to

alleviate our Pain and for our Labourous Work, and most fateaguingest in Life and much more so than any Company has gone through hitherto,—namely in building or assisting to build Fortifications or Batteries, together, most honourable Gentlemen, with the hard Feteagues of Guard, namely one every other Day mounting, and still Gentlemen, we are resolved that our Motto shall be Death or Glory.

Therefore, most honourable Gentlemen we hope your Honours will take your poor Petitioners Petition into your most serious Consideration and consult deliberately thereon, and give us a Grant, most honourable Gentlemen, of something more than our present Pay, which will make a Retalliation or Recompense for our hard Duty, and in so doing we shall be in Duty bound to pray,

Most honourable Gentlemen

The Royal Train of Artillery

God bless this Congress and direct our General

On the fifth of October, 1776, the Council of Safety “Ordered That Capt Fulford be requested to take into his company such of the Flying Camp, who have and shall be discharged from the Hospital & that they do duty with his compy regularly & be under his command.”

On the twenty-sixth of January, 1777, it was

"Ordered that Captain Fulford station a Guard at the house where the public Provision is kept," and on the twelfth of February, "That Captain Fulford be directed not to suffer any Vessels to depart from this Port, without a Permit from him and that no permit be given to any Vessel bound down this Bay below Poplar Island."

From Proceedings of the Legislature of Maryland during the Revolution :

"Friday, March 28, 1777, Resolved that John Fulford Esquire be and is hereby appointed Major of Artillery."

Letter from the Council of Safety to Major Fulford :

In Council Annapolis, 28th May 1777.
Major Fulford :

There is too good Ground to suspect that an Intercourse is carried on between the Disaffected amongst us and those of the same Character to the Southward & Northward of us. The Public Safety requires our Vigilance. We are informed that Mr William Brown and Mr James Anderson are about to set out for Philadelphia; you are to go to Bush Town and there search for all Papers and Letters they may have with them, and if you find any Papers, conveying Intelligence, bring the Papers and Persons before us. We have called on you for this Service, under a Confidence that you will use

Mr Brown and Mr Anderson genteely, but will not be diverted from a proper Enquiry. You may, if you think proper, take an Officer with you.

We are & ca

Majr Fulford.

The Council write again, on the thirtieth of July:

Sir:

We have just received Intelligence from one of the Deligates of this State in Congress that a Fleet of the Enemy's Ships consisting of 255 Sail were on Saturday off Egg Harbour and of other Movements, we therefore think it proper that the Matrosses under your Command should hold themselves in Readiness and we request that they may be held in Readiness either for an immediate March or such other Military Duty as the Exigency of Affairs may render necessary for the Security of this or any Neighbouring State. We have no Doubt of your Attention to this Requisition with your usual Assiduity.

We are & ca

Major Fulford.

On the twenty-first of August, the clerk of the Council writes:

The British Fleet having this morning passed Annapolis and consisting of upwards of two hun-

dred and Sixty Sail as said to have been counted by some and as estimated generally. The Governor proposed to the Council as a Question for their opinion whether the small number of Militia already in Town should be kept others called in and preparation made with a view to defend this place or the Town and Forts evacuated and the Guns and Stores endeavoured to be removed and secured. The Governor and Council were unanimously of opinion that Annapolis cannot be defended by any force which may properly be collected against the force the Enemy may at any Time bring against it and that therefore the Town and Forts ought to be evacuated and the Guns and Stores removed and Secured. Major Fulford was consulted on this Question whilst the same was under Consideration and was of the same opinion as the Governor and Council.

There are many other references to Major Fulford in the Archives of Maryland, but these are perhaps sufficient to emphasize the fact that as military commander of Annapolis he served the patriot cause faithfully and with marked ability. For four years he continued in that capacity, his arduous duties including the renewing of defences, and arming, drilling, and equipping of the state quotas of artillery. The records of the Council of Safety seem to indicate that he did not leave the capital,

but the history of Maryland asserts that he was with Washington at Brandywine, and family tradition that he was numbered among Washington's aids.

After the disastrous battle of Camden, when the Maryland line lost all their cannon and nearly all their men, he was killed while proving new guns at Ridgley's furnace, Baltimore County, Maryland, on the seventeenth of October, 1780. The Maryland Journal of Tuesday, October 24, 1780, says: "In Baltimore County, Major John Fulford, late of this Town, died. This Gentleman died of wounds received by the premature Discharge of a cannon which had been neglected to be properly sponged. Several other unfortunate persons were dreadfully wounded on the same melancholy occasion." Thus Eleanor Fulford was left a widow with five children, the youngest but two years old.

She had left Boston for Maryland in 1775. In the fall of that year, John Fulford, having decided to remain in Annapolis, where there was a large colony of Boston and New England people, sent for his wife to join him. The children of his first wife were aged seventeen, fourteen, ten, and nine years, respectively. According to family tradition, Elizabeth, the eldest, from her eleventh year, when her mother died, was brought up by her father's aunt, Sarah, who had married for her third husband, the wealthy John White of Boston. But

there are evidences which point to the location of both Elizabeth and her sister Sarah, the third child, in the city of Newburyport, probably with some family connection, at this time. Three years later Elizabeth was married to Edward Swasey, Jr., and on the eighth of October, 1785, Sarah became the wife of Samuel Long.

FROM NEWBURYPORT RECORDS

Edward Swasey, Jr. married to Elizabeth Fulford by Rev. Thomas Cary, Apr. 4, 1778, both of Newburyport.

Samuel Long married to Sally Fulford by Rev. John Murray, Oct. 8, 1785, both of Newburyport.

Of the second child of John Fulford, by his first wife, Eleanor Fulford, makes affidavit in 1808, at the time of the settlement of the Sarah White estate, that "he died when a lad somewhere in the neighborhood of Boston many years since."

Whether this was previous or subsequent to the removal to Annapolis, it is impossible to determine; but Preserved, the youngest, was the only child of the first marriage who accompanied the second wife and her own little ones out of Boston.

It was in the latter part of 1775 or early in 1776, and during the occupancy under General Gage. Eleanor Fulford, accompanied by her sister, Julia Bodkin, her children Mary, Henry, and Thomas,

aged five, four, and two years, respectively, and Preserved Fulford, nine years old, timidly made her way to the guard where her pass and her baggage were to be examined. While the guard were performing the latter duty, the silver concealed in a basket under the children's clothing rattled, and the women were alarmed, fearing it would be taken from them. But the officer, perceiving their distress, directed the guard to replace the clothing, saying, "Baby duds, nothing but baby duds," and to pass the little family. This story was told to Alexander Mitchell Fulford of Bel Air, Maryland, by his grandmother, Mary Frances, wife of William, youngest son of John Fulford. The silver, consisting of cream pitcher, sugar dish, spoons, etc., is still in possession of the family. After the settlement in Annapolis, two more children, Catherine and William, were born to Major Fulford. While the youngest child was still an infant, the father lost his life in the Revolutionary service, as related above.

Madam White of Boston, Major Fulford's aunt, did not lose interest in his family after his death, but continued in communication with them as long as she lived, and remembered them liberally in her will. In 1807 she writes the following letter to Henry, eldest son of Major Fulford's second marriage.

BOSTON, Jan. 8, 1807.

DEAR NEPHEW :

The last letter I had the pleasure of receiving from you was the 4th of August. You then wrote your Mother had been sick and had recovered. I hope she will long be spared to you. She has been a good parent to you and I hope you are as good a son, always keeping in mind the fifth commandment, which is with promise. I shall be glad to hear your Mother and all her children and grandchildren and her sister Julia are well. I suppose you have seen Mr. Wails. I went out to his father's on purpose to see him and to enquire about your family. He promised to come and see me and take a letter, but I suppose some business prevented him. I forgot to tell you I put your sister Catherine's child in her place. I could wish to know if your mother's sister Cox is living. I have made enquiry of her but cannot hear anything of her. Mrs. Butterick has removed to Concord, about 18 miles from Boston. I often hear of her that she and her children and grandchildren are well, but I cannot get her to write. Please make my best respects to Mr. Dugan and his family. Excuse every defect in my writing and consider I am now near 77 years old. I hope you have no postage to pay as I always pay before I send them.

From your affectionate aunt,

SARAH WHITE.

A COPY OF AUNT WHITE'S WILL

Be it Remembered that I Sarah White of Boston in the County of Suffolk and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, widow; being in usual health and Perfect memory do on this fifteenth day of September one thousand eight hundred six make and publish this my last Will and Testament in manner following, that is to say, I give my daughter in law Hannah Webster my silver coffee pot my silver sugar dish my silver spout cup and my clock. I also give to my said daughter in law four thousand dollars for her own use to be disposed of as she may think proper, and in case of her decease to go to her son John when he is of age. I also give to John White Webster my late husband's grandson one thousand dollars and to John Lower, Great Grandson of my said husband one thousand dollars when they are of lawful age. I give Elizabeth Swasey of Exeter daughter of my late nephew John Fulford four thousand dollars. I give to each of the three children of my said late nephew residing in Baltimore and to the child of their sister Catherine of the same place deceased three thousand dollars each. I give to Sarah Long another daughter of my said Nephew, late of Newburyport one thousand dollars to be put out at interest by my executors and the interest to be paid her annually, and

such part of the whole of the principle as the Executors shall think proper with the approbation of the Judge of Probate of this County when he shall give his approbation in writing. I give to the son and daughter of the said Sarah children of her first husband Long, when they are of age, one thousand dollars each.

I give the use of my Pew in the Gallery of the North Religious Society to Hipsey and Abigail Witham on condition that they pay the taxes and admit none but regular and decent persons into it, and at their decease or failure of the above conditions I give said pew to the Church and said society. I give to my minister the Revd John Eliot D. D. one hundred dollars. I give to my friend Captain Edward Tyler Sr. and his wife one hundred dollars each as a token of my love for them. I also give to my said daughter in law Hannah Webster all my house furniture and clothing not before bequeathed desiring her that she should dispose of such of my house furniture and clothing as she may think fit among the families of the forenamed Swasey and Long and to furnish a bed and bedding with other articles convenient to furnish a room for Elizabeth Davis all of which I leave to her discretion as well as the future comfort of the last mentioned.

And in case of the decease of any legatee their heirs are to succeed. And I give to Capt. Ne-

hemiah Somes Sen. five hundred dollars to be deducted from the specific sums before mentioned if he is alive at my decease. And all the rest of my estate real and personal not herein before bequeathed wherever the same may be found I give and devise to my said daughter in law Hannah Webster. And lastly I do constitute and ordain my friends Captain Edward Tyler Sen. and Redford Webster Executors of this my last will and Testament hereby revoking and making void all former wills and testaments by me heretofore made and should anything prevent Capt. Tyler or Mr. Webster or either of them from taking the trouble I think it may be best for the Judge to choose one or both.

Jedidiah Parker

Thos. Farrington Jr

Susan Bagley

Witnesses Redford Webster

Nathan Webb, Trader

Thomas Farrington, Druggist

Excr. Bond 14 Sept 1807.

This will, with the affidavit of Eleanor Fulford, the executor's final account, and the receipt of Edward and Elizabeth Swasey, may be found among the Suffolk County Probate records in Boston.

It will be seen that no mention of Preserved Ful-

ford is made in this will. After his father's death he is supposed to have run away from his home in Baltimore and made his way to his mother's people in Marblehead. There, unable to resist the attraction of the sea, he became a mariner.

FROM REGISTRY OF DEEDS, SALEM

Edward Swasey, cabinet maker and Elizabeth his wife, Samuel Long mariner and Sarah his wife, all of Newburyport, Preserved Fulford, mariner, of Marblehead and several others for £12 sell to Wm Rogers all their rights in the estate of their grandmother Johanna Vickery, late of Marblehead, her mansion house situate near New Meeting House Oct. 28, 1797.

Between this date and the date of Madam White's will, Preserved Fulford seems to have disappeared. It is probable that he was lost at sea.

At the time of Eleanor Fulford's death in 1819, she resided in Baltimore, probably with her youngest son, William, who was a prominent merchant in that town in the early part of the present century. Her portrait, in possession of Mrs. James A. Connor of Baltimore, a granddaughter of William Fulford, represents her in old age as a very stately and handsome woman. Her descendants are numerous in Baltimore and Harford Counties. "One of them is Alexander Mitchell Fulford of

Bel Air, Maryland, who has been for years president of the State Livestock Sanitary Commission, and is celebrated as a breeder of thoroughbred stock, both trotting horses and Jersey cattle. His breeding farm in Maryland is regarded as a model. He has brought out many large enterprises of great value to the country. He built a railroad from Baltimore to Bel Air, and was associated with the Hon. Brewster Cameron in establishing the canaigre industry in Arizona. They cultivated the plant on an extended scale, extracting the tannin, and exporting the product to the tanneries of Europe. The establishment of the canaigre industry will in time prove to be of inestimable value to the great Southwest."

The Massachusetts and Maryland descendants of Major Fulford of the present generation were quite unknown to each other till the recent large increase in the number of patriotic societies, and the consequent search for facts of lineage. A representative of the Maryland family, searching the volumes of the New England Historical and Genealogical Register for light on the question of Major Fulford's birth, found the name of John Fulford Folsom, father of Albert Alonzo Folsom, a Massachusetts railroad man. Believing that he was at last on the track of the Major's northern descendants, he wrote to Captain Folsom, sending

the letter to a prominent railroad man of his acquaintance for forwarding. This venture resulted in a very lively and interesting correspondence between Captain Folsom and members of the southern family, in the course of which, the personality of Major Fulford, whose very name was unknown to the fourth generation of his Massachusetts descendants, began to assume for them interesting and even heroic proportions. In March, 1896, Captain Folsom spent a few days in the beautiful homes of Mr. Fulford of Bel Air and Mr. Connor of Baltimore, and had a very delightful experience with his new-found kinsfolk. The writer is indebted to Mr. Fulford for several pleasant letters, and a photographic reproduction of the portrait of Captain Welshman.

CHAPTER XVIII

CHILDREN OF SAMUEL WILLIAMS WELLS

Elizabeth Swasey bore to Samuel Williams Wells eight children, Eliza Fulford, Hannah, Almira, Samuel, Edward Swasey, Nathaniel, William, and Lucy Jane.

Eliza Fulford, named for her grandmother, Elizabeth Fulford, was born in Newbury on the twenty-fourth of January, 1804. Early trained to share the burdens of her mother, she developed traits of character that endeared her not only to her family, but to all the suffering and needy with whom she came in contact. "This woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did." She resembled her mother in form and feature, and though the second daughter, was called the beauty of the family, was regarded by the youngest, prejudiced perhaps by her tender love for the sister who gave her a mother's care, as the fairest of her father's daughters. On the death of her mother, she took her place in the home. Still she found time to go from house to house, caring for the sick and dying, consoling the afflicted, and helping the poor.

When the clouds of a great sorrow gathered about her, and the man who was about to make her his wife sickened and died, she did not shut herself away from the world, but continued her ministrations both at home and abroad.

“She met the hosts of sorrow with a look
That altered not beneath the frown they wore,
And soon the lowering brood were tamed, and took
Meekly her gentle rule, and frowned no more.”

Finally she contracted erysipelas while supplying the needs of a poor family, who were sorrowing over their dead, and after a few days of great suffering, the helpful hands were forever folded. “And is this dying? Happy dying!” These were her last words.

She passed from earth on the sixteenth of March, 1843. Her father had buried father, mother, brothers, sisters, wife, and children, but overwhelmed by the magnitude of this loss, he cried out that he had never known trouble before. On the day of the funeral a winter storm had rendered streets and roads almost impassable, but the church was crowded with sorrowing men and women who had felt the power of her gentle life. Her pastor, whose little daughter was named Eliza Wells, wrote the following stanzas for her tombstone, from which her father selected the first, as expressing simply and concisely the influence of her life and character.

These lines may still be deciphered on the simple stone that marks her grave, though half obliterated by the mold of fifty years.

Stanzas in Memory of *
Eliza Fulford Wells,
by
Amos Walton.

There needs no monumental stone
Her merits to emblazon forth,
For all to whom her name is known
Are living records of her worth.

Friendship with her was not a name,
A flickering light by interest fed,
But as sublime and pure a flame
As burns around a seraph's head.

But ah, that form of fertile worth
The merciless hand of death has riv'n;
When fully blossomed here on earth,
The flower was taken up to heav'n.

Hannah, the second daughter born on the fifteenth of February, 1806, was the beauty of the family. The writer has heard her grandfather, Gideon Woodwell, say, that on her occasional home-comings from Lowell, where she earned large wages in the cotton mills, she would bewilder the neighborhood with the charm of her bright eyes, delicate features, and slight erect figure arrayed in silken gown, feathers, and furbelows. While she was in Lowell she received considerable attention from the

son of one of the mill-owners and a representative of an old and distinguished Boston family. It was perhaps the breaking of this friendship that caused the refusal of the attentions of other young men, the development of a jealous and fitful temper, and the early fading of her beauty.

The writer has heard her say that but for a foolish whim she might have been mistress of a fine house and ridden in her carriage. She may have been mistaken in this, but it is unquestionably true that he never forgot her, for when he was an old man, and she had lost every trace of her youthful beauty, he greeted her with great cordiality and invited her to sit in his pew whenever she happened into the Boston church of which he was a member. She never married, though she had several offers.

Hannah Wells was deeply interested in genealogy long years before the recent revival of interest in that subject. Her claim to descent from one of Washington's aids leads to the inference that Major Fulford must sometime have served in that capacity. She greatly admired and even coveted the Welshman portraits, though she knew not where to place them in the family history, and endeavored to determine the Wells coat of arms, the crest of which she declared was a flame of fire. After her death, several scraps of paper containing reference to Dr. Thomas Wells and Deacon Samuel Williams were

found among her papers, also a copy of the lost family record of the senior Edward Swasey.

After the death of eldest sister and step-mother, she became her father's housekeeper and the principal factor in the rearing of little Ben, whom she loved with more than a sister's affection. Intensely loyal to her friends, she would defend them fiercely against the criticisms of others, though inclined herself to address them at times with words of sharp reproof. She was generous to a fault, frequently denying herself that she might give to others. Loving the turmoil of a great city, after her father's death she resided in Boston. She passed away on the fifth of April, 1889, when eighty-three years old.

Almira, the third daughter, was born on the twenty-eighth of November, 1807. With Hannah she worked in the cloth room of one of the Lowell mills. In those days the mill hands were all American, most of them well brought up, and many of them well educated. Almira married George Currier, a handsome young mason of Newburyport. The ceremony was performed in the small home parlor on the twenty-fifth of December, 1831. The youngest sister, who was eight years old at the time, at seventy-five recalls that the bride was very beautiful in a gown of white spotted muslin, with a fall of lace around the low cut bodice. After the cere-

mony, bride and groom went off in a coach to a sister's home, the former arrayed in red French calico, a fabric at that time imported at considerable expense, and accounted very nice. The beauty of the bride, as she was driven away, her delicate face and snowy neck and shoulders, set off by the glow of that gown, made a deep impression on the little sister, as did her appearance the following Sunday, when, attired in a great leghorn bonnet and long pelisse of cinnamon brown cloth, she walked into church with her handsome husband.

Almira became the mother of nine children, Edward Shaw, George William, Eliza Mary, George William, Abba Almira, Samuel Wells, Anna Gould, Moody Lunt, and William Forbes. Of these sons and daughters the second, fifth, sixth and ninth died in infancy, and the eighth in young manhood. Edward Shaw resides in Amesbury, Massachusetts, and George William in Denver, Colorado. Eliza Mary married Charles Henry Meader on the thirteenth of October, 1859, and Anna Gould became the wife of Samuel Simons Blake on the fourteenth of February, 1879, and his widow November 29, 1888.

Almira Wells gave herself with unwearied devotion to the interests of her family and passed away on the twenty-seventh of August, 1857, when only fifty years old.

Samuel, the eldest son of Samuel Williams and Elizabeth Wells, was born on the fifteenth of March, 1810, and Nathaniel, the third son, on the twelfth of March, 1816. They both grew to be tall and handsome young men, with very dark hair and dark blue eyes, and both inherited a delicate constitution. Samuel died of consumption at the age of thirty, with perfect calmness disposing of his few personal effects, and arranging for the simple burial and plain stone, on which name, age, and date of death were to be inscribed. Then, having said a few words of farewell to each member of the family, he settled himself quietly, closed his eyes, and entered into rest "like one who wraps the drapery of his couch about him and lies down to pleasant dreams."

Nathaniel contracted a fever while at work in Haverhill, and insisted on being brought home as soon as the fever had turned. The result was a relapse, with terrible sickness and delirium until death.

William, the youngest son, was born on the twenty-first of May, 1819. He resembled his brother Edward physically, but possessed none of his push and enterprise. He was a homekeeper, quiet and gentle, with all the qualities that go to

make a good man, but none that fit one for struggle with adverse circumstances. He was unfitted for manual labor. With every day of hard work his hands would swell, causing great pain, so that nightly bandaging was necessary. In 1848 he went West and spent several months with his brother Edward. After recovering from the chills, from which he suffered severely, he left Quincy, going southward on the river, and was never again heard from. It is probable that he died of cholera. To this day his youngest sister mourns for him, and chides herself for advising one so unfitted for struggle with the world to go out into its noise, and whirl, and bitter conflict. In her youth the writer wove many a romance, with this wanderer for hero. Sometimes she made him a fortunate forty-niner, at others a herder of cattle on the Mexican border, again a fur hunter in the wild northwest; but whatever his experience, she always brought him home rich, handsome, and as good as when he went away.

Lucy Jane, the youngest child of Samuel Williams Wells and Elizabeth Swasey, his wife, was born on the thirteenth of March, 1823. She hardly felt the loss of her mother, who died when she was ten years old, owing to the tender care bestowed on her by her eldest sister, Eliza Fulford. The loss of this mother-sister was her first real sorrow.



MRS. ROBERT B. WOODWELL
(LUCY JANE WELLS)

PHOTO 1898



Throughout her girlhood it was her custom to stand in the twilight at the "end window" and watch for Eliza's nightly return, when duty had called her from home. With her coming the fire was replenished, candles were lighted, supper was served, and the old kitchen glowed with light and cheer. When she went out to return no more, the young sister, in her lonely moments would pray fervently that she might appear to her.

On the seventh of March, 1848, Lucy Jane was married to Robert Baker Woodwell, eldest son of Gideon Woodwell, the next door neighbor of Samuel Williams Wells.

Robert Baker Woodwell is the great-grandson of Captain Gideon Woodwell, who in 1756 was commissioned by Governor William Shirley of the Massachusetts Bay Province, "to take upon himself the direction of a Company of Shipwrights and others skilled in the felling and hewing of Timber, to be forthwith sent from this Province for the building of Battoes & for Transporting the Forces destined for the Intended Expedition against Crownpoint." The old commission from which the above is quoted is still in an excellent state of preservation.

From 1763 to 1773, Captain Gideon Woodwell built fifty-two vessels in Newbury. On the Lexington alarm at the head of a company of minute men he marched to Cambridge, and later was de-

tailed to serve as coast guard in his native town. His son, Captain John, succeeded to his father's business, and in the same yard near the mouth of the Merrimac, from the close of the war in 1783, to 1790, built ten vessels of varying size and model. He was succeeded by his three sons, John, David, and Gideon, who, from 1810 to 1850, built ninety schooners of from fifty to three hundred tons. Robert Baker Woodwell, with his brother and cousins, was taught the art of shipbuilding in the same yard. In 1859 he moved to East Boston, where the ship building interests were very large, and since that year has resided in that place.

Three children were born to Robert Baker and Lucy Jane Woodwell, Elizabeth Titcomb, Samuel Williams, and Lucy Elizabeth. The first died in infancy, and the dear and only son and brother at the age of thirty. The third, a teacher, is the writer of these sketches. She could write many things of the youngest child of Samuel Williams and Elizabeth Wells. She knows her clear insight, her rare capabilities, her tireless energy, her patience, her unselfish devotion; also her disinclination "to be printed in a book." So she withholds her pen.

On the seventeenth of September, 1835, Samuel Williams Wells married Tamson Doyle, a widow with four children, all of age and established in life. Benjamin Bartlett, born on the seventh of June,

1837, was the child of this union. The mother died when her little son was only nine months old, but the child knew no lack of love and care. He became the peculiar treasure of the home, the idol of every member of the family. He was Lucy Jane's special charge in infancy, and in young manhood her pride and joy. When he left her to seek his fortune in the West, her sorrow was like that of a mother who parts with her son, and in all the long years of his wanderings she has followed him with alternations of hope and fear, and with daily longings for his return. He went first to his brother in Quincy, Illinois, and then, attracted by successive discoveries of gold, to Pike's Peak in Colorado, and Willow Creek and Great Falls in Montana. He has recently settled in Ogden, Utah.

CHAPTER XIX

EDWARD AND MARY WELLS

Edward Wells, second son of Samuel Williams Wells and Elizabeth Swasey, his wife, was born in Newbury, on the twenty-third of March, 1813. Named for his maternal grandfather, Edward Swasey, he is entered in both town and family records as Edward Swasey Wells; but acquiring a strong distaste for double Christian names, it may be from the Newbury custom of bringing both parts into common daily use, in very young manhood he dropped the second part, and in the new home which he made for himself, acquired wide repute under the name which constitutes the title of this chapter. In 1834 he writes from Boston to a sister, "I would have received your letter sooner if you had not put that S on the outside of it. There is a person here by the name of Edward S. Wells, and he took your letter out of the office. Your affectionate brother, E. W., *not* E. S. W."

In childhood Edward Wells gave evidence of the push, energy, and courage which led him, in early manhood, to leave the beaten way of men, and go



MRS. EDWARD WELLS
(MARY B. EVANS)



PHOTO 1893

out across the mountains to make name, place, and home for himself on the confines of civilization.

At the age of fourteen he sought and obtained employment with a rope maker in his native town, who, perceiving in him the promise of unusual business ability, endeavored to retain his services, when at the end of the year he gave notice of his intention to withdraw, by offers of immediate promotion and eventually a share in the business. But the lad wanted a larger field for the exercise of his powers than a ropewalk in an old town that had ceased to grow.

Newburyport, whose ships had once carried the products of the surrounding region to the uttermost parts of the earth, and brought back the rich stuffs demanded by her merchant princes, had suffered a severe blow in the embargo placed on foreign trade by the government in 1807. It is significant of the opulence that once characterized this commercial center, that a fully rigged and equipped man-of-war was presented to the government in Revolutionary times by a single individual, and hardly missed from the fleet of one hundred and thirty-four vessels of which he was principal owner. In 1827 the importing interests, though in a measure recovered from the effects of the embargo, had failed to reach their former importance, and manufactures had scarcely begun. Business was dull, and ambitious young

men felt the attraction of the metropolis thirty miles away.

Influenced by these considerations, young Edward Wells packed his modest box, said good-by to his employer and home friends, and on the top of the stage coach that plied semi-weekly between his native town and Boston, made his first trip to that famous city. On India Wharf he found a cooper by the name of Lang, who, attracted doubtless by the lad's businesslike manner, agreed to take him as apprentice till the time of his majority. Then followed seven busy years, in the course of which the lad not only acquired complete knowledge of his craft, and satisfied the master whom he was bound to serve, but by working overtime, as opportunity offered, earned one hundred dollars, which, bit by bit as it was gathered, was sacredly set aside to give him a start in business when the days of his service should be over.

Throughout the years of his apprenticeship he was on the best of terms with his master's family, with whom he boarded, on his visits home never forgetting to mention the kindness of Mistress Lang and the vivacity of Miss Martha. The Langs lived at the north end, probably in the vicinity of Father Taylor's Bethel, and the young apprentice, attracted by the brilliant oratory of that remarkable man, was at one time seldom absent from the Sunday services.

An invitation to sing in the Bethel choir, found among a sister's papers sixty years after it was written, leads one to surmise that he was not unknown among the throngs that crowded the Bethel in the days when Father Taylor's influence was felt at the ends of the earth.

In the last days of his service the young apprentice belonged to the City Fire Department and the Mechanic's Library Association, and whether sitting in solemn conclave with the members of the latter organization, or taking his turn at the old hand engine in the heat and smoke of a city fire, was equally willing, energetic and helpful.

After the terms of his indenture were fulfilled, he worked at his trade, boarding somewhere on Fort Hill, waiting an opportunity to invest the savings of his years of apprenticeship. In April, 1834, he writes to a sister, "I shall remain here but six months longer unless there is some great change in the prospects that are before me." No change for the better seems to have taken place, for in October of the same year we find him, equipped with a new stock of clothing and tools, purchased with part of his savings, the remainder of the one hundred dollars in his pocket, and the blessing of his father and home friends in his heart, cutting himself adrift from the moorings of familiar scenes, and launching out into the unknown West.

In October, 1833, Captain Nathaniel Pease, a man of great energy and enterprise, who had been trading in Cleveland, Ohio, and other points on the lakes, made his way to the little town of Quincy, in Adams County, Illinois, bought three hundred hogs, had them slaughtered and packed, and carried them off to sell in other places. Succeeding in this venture, and deciding that Quincy was well located, and destined to grow, he determined to return with his family and settle there permanently. His home was in Cambridge, Massachusetts. In the spring, when his plans for emigration were nearly perfected, young Edward Wells met him, heard his story, and concluded to join his party which was to start in the fall.

Thus it is we find him on a mild October day, saying good-by to the Langs, to Mrs. Choate, a cousin residing at that time in Boston, and to his friends of the Bethel and the Library Association, and boarding the train for Providence and the West. At that time, as the railway system was in its infancy, connections were uncertain and accommodations limited. In 1827 there were but three miles of railway in the United States, and in 1830 but forty-one. On July fourth, 1828, the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad was but commenced, and in 1832 the most important lines in Massachusetts, and the Camden and Amboy in New Jersey were still in process of construction.

Perfection of detail could hardly be expected of these infant lines as early as 1834, and our little party, bound for Quincy on the Mississippi, may be said to have begun roughing it from the start.

They journeyed from Boston to Providence by rail, from Providence to Amboy by boat, and then by rail from Amboy to Philadelphia, from Philadelphia to Baltimore, and from Baltimore over the mountains to the Ohio River. Down this stream they voyaged by steamer, frequently delayed by low water, and helped over the sand bars, where they grounded, by men who worked day after day in the water for the low wage of three shillings. They passed at times through noiseless woodland solitudes and boundless prairies, level and lonely as the sea. The boat was run by no schedule. It stopped anywhere to let passengers off, at a creek, a cabin, or a young, busy town. It tied up wherever it was convenient, to wait for wood to be cut and loaded, or repairs to be made. Waiting for repairs seems in fact to have absorbed a great deal of the time of those early steamboat trips. Finally they reached the Mississippi, and boarded an upward-bound steamer for the last stage of their journey.

Quincy at that time contained only about five hundred inhabitants. There were some half dozen very respectable frame houses, a good many log cabins, a log court house and jail, several smaller

frame houses, two small brick dwellings, and a frame tavern. An infant town indeed, but its location on the Mississippi, in a region unsurpassed for fertility and productiveness, with an unlimited supply of building stone in its bluffs, and timber on the islands and margins of the river, gave promise not only of rapid but continuous growth.

Into this town, incorporated but four months previously, entered young Edward Wells, wearied with a thirty-four days' journey, slightly homesick, destitute of money except for a single silver dollar, but well furnished with Yankee ingenuity, pluck, energy, and determination to succeed. Like his Puritan ancestor, he stepped into a new world, consecrated to the task of helping to redeem it from the wilderness, and make it blossom with all the beauty of civilization.

Failing to find work at his trade, he took hold of any honorable employment that presented itself. I have heard him say that having a thorough knowledge of but one trade, he had worked at all. He learned by observation what he did not discover by a fine mechanical sense that was his in no common measure. That first winter was uncommonly mild, a contrast to the cold and storm of the New England coast, till the twenty-eighth of January, when a cold wave passed over Illinois and Kentucky that pulled the mercury down to thirty-two degrees below zero,

killed or injured nearly all the fruit trees, and brought death to large numbers of horses, cattle and hogs.

In the spring of 1835, Edward Wells formed a partnership in the cooper business with James D. Morgan, a friend who had followed him from Boston. Their acquaintance, begun in 1826, on India Wharf, where young Morgan was employed in a neighboring cooper shop, had ripened in the ranks of the fire brigade and the Library Association to which both belonged. Reports concerning the promise of the new settlement reaching Morgan, aroused in him a desire to emigrate, and a business partnership was the natural outgrowth of his reunion with his friend. Mr. Morgan, having a wife and child, took up his abode in a log cabin, but the younger member of the firm lived in the shop, his modest housekeeping arrangements hidden by a curtain from the business end of the establishment. To coopering he gave himself with characteristic energy for a few years. His work brought him into relations with the pork packers, and seeing in their business a wider opportunity for the accumulation of wealth he discontinued his partnership with Mr. Morgan and began to pack and ship pork. In 1839 he was one of four pork packers who packed five thousand hogs, in 1840, one of four who packed four thousand, in 1842 one of four who packed seven

thousand, in 1843 one of four who packed twenty thousand, and in 1846 one of four who packed ten thousand. Afterward he engaged in the business on a more extended scale, and laid the foundations of a fortune to which he added by judicious operations in real estate in Chicago.

Though possessed in a remarkable degree of the business instinct which detects success or failure at the outset, his judgment was not always infallible in those early years of his business career. Twice, through the failures of other men, he lost everything he had accumulated, and twice with undaunted courage he began to build anew. It was perhaps while waiting an opportunity to start afresh in his chosen career, that he went into the solitudes of the Des Moines river to trade with the Indians, made trips to New Orleans to dispose of produce, and even served as mate on a Mississippi steamboat. He was never at a loss for employment of some kind, and always had in his mind some reserve plan for getting a living which he would have developed had he not been busily engaged in doing something else. In 1839 he writes to his father, sending the letter by friends returning to Gloucester, Massachusetts. "You speak about raising onions in this country. There never was soil better adapted to them. They grow as large as saucers. But there is difficulty in getting good seed. If I had had five pounds of good

seed this spring, I believe I could have sold it for fifty dollars, for there was none here. The people do not raise their own garden seed. They depend on buying it from the East, and then half the time it doesn't come in sufficient quantity. A man might make money here raising seed. He could sell any quantity in this upper country. You would be surprised to see the quantity shipped here from the East every year." In the same letter he refers to the growth of the city. "Quincy is still improving. If we keep on a few years longer we shall have a place larger than Newburyport. There has been a great deal of immigration to this country this year. We have now six different religious denominations, Congregational, Baptist, Methodist, Episcopal, Unitarian and Catholic. So you see there are plenty of chances to go to church if a person is so disposed."

About this time Edward Wells united with a few others in founding the Unitarian Church, of which the Reverend George Moore was the first settled minister. Mr. Moore came in 1840. A careful student of Dr. Channing, he was still not specially attractive as a preacher, but won the love of the whole settlement by unfailing gentleness and self sacrifice, —literally going about doing good. Exerting a beneficent influence over all with whom he came in contact, it is not to be wondered at, that he strengthened and made permanent the ties that bound young

Edward Wells to the infant church, so that he continued for more than fifty years not only a regular attendant, but a stay and support, giving with bounteous hand in response to all its calls for help. Nor did he waver when, in the last years of his life the financial burden of the church rested largely on his shoulders.

With his advent into the town, Edward Wells joined the volunteer fire department, which he served as chief for one term. Old "Number One," which was purchased sometime between 1837 and 1840 for the sum of \$1,125, felt his hand in those early famous fires on Hampshire Street and "under the hill," as well as in less destructive blazes.

From the time of his majority he gave himself with diligence to the study of the political situation, allying himself in turn with the Whig and Republican parties. In the log cabin and hard cider campaign of 1840, he was a delegate to the county convention that endorsed the nomination of "Tippecanoe and Tyler too." An eye-witness to the marching of the delegates thus describes the procession: "First there came a troop of horse, two abreast. Then a large yellow wagon in which was the band of the Quincy Grays in full blast, the flag of Harrison and Tyler waving over their heads. Next came the delegates marching two by two, and then the cannon on a gun carriage drawn by two

horses. But the cynosure of all eyes was a long canoe on four wheels, drawn by four horses, in the middle of which was a barrel of hard cider, while George Chapman, the cooper, sat in the stern paddling with great enthusiasm. After the canoe came a long train of wagons and carriages decorated with flags, while two mail coaches brought up the rear."

On the nineteenth of March, 1837, Edward Wells married Mary Babson Evans, daughter of Captain Robert Evans, who had emigrated from Boston in 1835. Robert Evans was born in 1784, near Germantown, Pennsylvania, and died at residence of Edward Wells, Quincy, Ill., 1866. Conceiving a passionate longing for the sea in boyhood, he inaugurated an eventful career by running away from home and shipping, probably at Philadelphia. There is no record of his experience as a sailor-boy, but in young manhood we find him settled in Gloucester, Massachusetts, and making voyages to the West Indies as captain of the schooner Polly of that port.

In the War of 1812, there were some miraculous escapes of the Polly from British men-of-war. At one time Captain Evans deliberately ran her aground to avoid capture, and later succeeded in getting off with but little injury to vessel or cargo. His daring on this occasion led to his appointment to the command of the Thrasher, a privateer fitted out by the

town. In this war the people of Gloucester did not engage in privateering to so great an extent as in the Revolutionary struggle. The only vessels of considerable size that were fitted out from the town were the schooners *Swordfish*, *Thrasher*, and *Orlando*. The two former were taken by the enemy on their second cruise. The latter took no valuable prizes. The most daring performance of all was the capture by the *Thrasher* of an English East Indiaman of twenty guns, manned by upwards of one hundred men. The *Thrasher* was of about one hundred and fifty tons burthen, and carried fourteen guns and ninety men. She was commanded by Captain Robert Evans. He decided to attempt the capture of the Indiaman by boarding her. He ran boldly alongside, and the boarders, to the number of twenty-seven men, sprang upon the deck of the ship, and meeting with but little resistance, secured instant possession of her. The ship was one of the most valuable prizes of the war, but the victors soon lost her and became prisoners themselves. When the *Thrasher* fell in with the Indiaman, a large fleet of English merchantmen, under convoy of ships of war, was in sight. After the capture, the changing of the course of the prize aroused the suspicion of the ships of war. One immediately gave chase and soon recaptured her, together with the *Thrasher* and all her crew. Captain Evans and his men were taken to England and



MR. AND MRS. ROBERT EVANS
(BETSEY BABSON)



DAGUERRETYPE 1854

placed in Dartmoor Prison, where they were held till the close of the war. There is a romantic tale of escape and recapture, with incarceration in a deeper dungeon, but the writer has been unable to find it in detail or establish it as fact.

On the eleventh of April, 1813, before the sailing of the Thrasher on her fatal second cruise, Captain Evans married Betsey (Babson) Haven, a widow with a little girl six years old. Her former husband was Henry Haven, to whom she was married on the twenty-third of December, 1805. Their child, Eliza Ann Haven, born on the eleventh of April, 1807, was married to William Henry Steele on the twenty-third of August, 1825, ten years previous to the emigration of Captain Evans. Mary Wells, who was twelve years younger than this half-sister, always regarded her with affection, and gave her name to her first-born child.

Betsey Babson was the daughter of Samuel Babson and Hannah Tarr. She was born in Gloucester, Mass., and died at her home on the southeast corner of Hampshire and Eighth Streets, Quincy, Ill., in 1855. The first Babsons who came to Gloucester were the widow Isabel and her son James, who were among the first settlers. They appear to have been the sole emigrants to New England of that name, and the number bearing it in the mother country must have been small, for in the six

years preceding James Babson's emigration, the name does not appear in the general record of births, marriages, and deaths in England and Wales. A tradition in one branch of the family in Gloucester declares that the widow Isabel and her son came from Bristol, England; but this may have had its origin in the fact that Elinor Hill, the wife of James, was from that city, for the name does not appear in the Bristol records.

The widow Isabel had several grants of land, of which the earliest entered in the records bears the date of 1644. The record of her purchase of Ashley's lot in the harbor is without date. It was probably bought before the grants were made by the town. The grant to her son James is in these words: "Dec. 23, 1658, given to James Babson twelve acres of fresh meadow lying above the mill, also twenty acres of upland lying by the side of it." James Babson made his will on the fourth of December, 1683, and died on the twenty-first of the same month. Samuel Babson was his great-great-grandson. The inventory of his estate is as follows:

Houses and upland fresh and salt.....	£52.10
And other peaces of land in the harbor.....	10.
For cattle greate and small.....	30.16
One mare.	1.
For swine greate and small.....	2.10
For beds and bedding thereunto belonging.....	6.
For pots, kettle, and frying-pan.....	1.

For pewter.	.10
For guns and sword and bullets and bullet mould.	2.
For barrels chest and other lumber.....	.10
For one cart and sled and plough and tackling thereunto belonging and other husbandry tools	£3.10
For wearing clothes.	1.10
	£111.16

Betsey (Babson) Haven bore Captain Evans four children. Their births are thus recorded in the register at City Hall.

Children of Robert and Betsey Evans:

George, born August 19, 1815.

Mary B., born March 3, 1819.

James L., born May 26, 1821.

Harriet, born November 3, 1823.

The capture of the Thrasher left the sorrowing mother to provide for her little daughter, as well as bear the long agony of suspense respecting the fate of her husband, until his release from Dartmoor and return at the close of the war.

Between the time of his return and 1819, Captain Evans built the house represented in the picture, and it was in this house that Mary Babson, James L., and Harriet were born. The large lot on which it is situated sides on the street that skirts the bay, so that the white sails of in-coming and out-going vessels by day, and the tossing lights of

anchored fleets by night, became a part of the education of the Evans children. The writer has seen that bay, when every wave glittered in the summer sun like a jewel. Doubtless the Evans children, as they grew older, had their moments of marveling at its beauty.

On the upper side of the Evans lot, the granite ledge which underlies the town crops out in a broad rock, which alternated with the water-side as the favorite playground of the little folks. On the center and nearer the street than the old home, sometime in the twenties, Captain Evans built a more pretentious house, which, at the time of his removal he sold to William Henry Steele. It has been remodeled and completely changed in appearance by the present owner, whose residence occupies the adjoining lot.

After the war, Captain Evans took up sea-going again, and continued in the West India trade for several years. Then, tired of the sea, which had been his field of labor from boyhood, he sold his interest in his brig and moved to Boston, residing on the corner of Castle and Tremont Streets. But the removal to the metropolis proved only a stepping stone to a greater change. In 1835, unable to resist the attraction of the young West, which called and beckoned with tales of marvelous productiveness from every returning traveler, he was



BIRTHPLACE OF MARY B WELLS, GLOUCESTER, MASS., BUILT 1815-19



Photo 1898

drawn into the stream of emigration that wound over the mountains, down the Ohio, and up the Mississippi to the fertile prairies of Illinois.

Captain Evans bought a farm near Bloomfield, twelve miles from Quincy, but discouraged by the loneliness of the place which hourly increased the homesickness of his family, he decided to locate in Quincy. He remained at Bloomfield only one week, but in that short period Edward Wells, hearing that a Massachusetts family had bought a farm on the prairie, rode out to call. It was on this visit that he first saw young Mary Evans. She was barely sixteen, slender, fair, with waving masses of soft dark hair, a dimpled smile, and a reticent manner.

Captain Evans bought a house on the corner of Eighth and Hampshire Streets and moved into town; and there on the nineteenth of March, 1837, Edward Wells and Mary Evans were married. It was previous to the organization of the Unitarian Church and the ceremony was performed by the Reverend Asa Turner, Congregational. The groom was twenty-four years old and the bride eighteen. They had decided to begin their new life as boarders in the home of Mr. Morgan, who lived in a modest frame structure of one and one-half stories, near the corner of Delaware and Front Streets. There were but two rooms on the lower

floor, narrow quarters for the Morgans, four in number, and the young bride and groom. After Edward Wells and Mary Evans were made man and wife, the groom brought his horse to the door, placed his bride in the saddle, and walked by her side as she rode down the hill to begin with him her wedded life. In less than a year they left the Morgans, and began housekeeping in a small house near the corner of Sixth Street and Broadway. It was a pioneer home, simple, but scrupulously neat, with evidences of thrift and growth from the beginning.

Here on the second of July, 1838, was born Eliza Ann, the first child, who lived but a few days over nine months. Edward Wells, writing to his father May 19, 1839, says: "I have to inform you that we have lost our little girl. She died on the twenty-ninth of April, after a sickness of three weeks. She suffered a great deal with lung fever and canker. I assure you we have met with a great loss, for she was a very bright little girl. She could stand alone when she was nine months old."

Mary Eliza, the second child, born on the twenty-second of March, 1840, died a victim of cholera, on the twentieth of September, 1854. In the year 1833 that fatal disease first made its appearance in Quincy, in five days carrying off thirty-three of the four hundred inhabitants. Again in 1849, out of a population of six thousand, it

claimed four hundred victims, and in 1851 nearly two hundred. It did not again assume epidemical proportions, but attacked individuals from time to time for several seasons.

In 1849, when terror reigned in the plague-stricken town, and it was difficult to find nurses for the sick or men to dispose of the dead, Edward Wells, fearlessly risking infection to give help to the suffering and bereaved, had acquired considerable skill in combating the disease. But when his own little girl was stricken, being away from home on business, he could not join with physician, wife, and friends in the struggle to save the child's life. A messenger was sent after him with all speed, but when he threw himself from his horse at his door, and entered the chamber of sickness, the child was too far gone to recognize her father, and beyond human help.

Edward and Mary Wells had already lost, besides their first little girl, Edward, a beautiful boy of eight, and Harriet, a tiny girl of two. The former born on the twenty-first of December, 1841, died November 3, 1849, and the latter born February 28, 1844, died on the fifteenth of April, 1846. The family had prospered in many ways. Prior to 1844 they had acquired a competence, for on the fourth of June of that year they moved into a substantial brick house, No. 408 Jersey Street.

The death of Mary Eliza was a crushing blow. She was fourteen years old, and singularly sweet and attractive. Her future had been carefully planned. At fifteen, with Katie Gage, her dear friend and schoolmate, she was to be sent to a Massachusetts school to complete her education, and her development into beautiful and accomplished young womanhood was anticipated with pride and pleasure. Other children came to bless the union of Edward and Mary Wells, but that the four who died were never forgotten is evidenced by a few quiet words spoken by the mother when her eldest grandchildren had grown to young manhood. The writer, while a looker-on with her at the evening dance in a summer hotel, remarked that she had heard reference made to her graceful dancing in the days of her girlhood and young womanhood; and questioning why she had early given up this form of recreation, received answer that she never cared to dance after the loss of her children. The words were few and spoken with a reserve characteristic of New England women, but they revealed the abiding sorrow of the mother for her first born children.

In the summer of 1840, Edward Wells journeyed eastward to visit the city of his birth. There was a change in the old home. In 1835 Samuel Williams Wells at sixty-one had married a second time—



408 JERSEY STREET

Photo 1899

Tamson Doyle, a widow, who died on the eighth of May, 1838, leaving an infant son to become the peculiar care and treasure of every member of the household. Edward Wells found the beautiful child, three years old at this time, making music in the old rooms that had not echoed a baby's laugh in seventeen years, and filling the hearts of his rapidly aging father and mature brothers and sisters with sunshine. Other changes were such as time makes in old and young in the course of six years. The mother of the writer, youngest child of the first marriage, had developed from a girl of eleven to a young woman of seventeen. She was very proud of her handsome brother, who had dared the perils of the wilderness and in six years not only made a home for himself, but acquired means sufficient to warrant a visit to the home of his childhood; while he in turn conceived a warm affection for the young sister, whom he had seen but a few times since her fourth birthday.

In 1848, Edward Wells came to his native town again, accompanied by his wife and little daughter. Edward, a boy of seven, and George, two years old, were left at home in the care of their mother's sister, Harriet Evans. It was the first time that Mary Wells had seen her husband's people. The father was seventy-four years old and very feeble. The loss of his son Samuel in 1841, and his eldest daugh-

ter, Eliza, the stay and comfort of the house, with his son Nathaniel, in 1843, had been a great blow, and increasing years and his cough had completed the wreck of his strength. But his greeting was none the less cordial. He had written several months previous, "Now for your journey East. We need not say that we long to see Edward, his dear Mary and children. That you know. You know also the expense and danger of such a journey. But there is an overruling Providence to protect all such as put their trust in Him, and go straight forward in the way of duty. We must leave the event to Him who alone knows what is best for us."

Besides the father, there were but three in the home at this time, Hannah, the second eldest daughter, William, the youngest son of the first marriage, and little Ben, Tamson Doyle's legacy to the family. The mother of the writer had just married and was keeping house on Water Street, a stone's throw from the old homestead. The visitors spent one fortnight with the father, and the other with the newly wedded pair. The pleasures of that visit are still remembered. There were but four rooms in the home, and one of these unfurnished; but the others were large, and beautiful with the new things of the young housekeepers. Any inconveniences arising from the simplicity of

the housekeeping arrangements were laughed at and looked upon as a part of the good time. There were merry makings at home, teas and dinners out, and excursions up and down the river, the only check on the general happiness being the absence of Almira, the third sister, who was watching by the bedside of a sick child.

Little Mary Eliza Wells was a quiet and unobtrusive child, very pretty and a favorite with the men who worked in the shipyard opposite, where the third and fourth generations of Woodwells were building vessels on the very spot where Captain Gideon founded the business on his return from the war in 1763. The shipyard was a fascinating playground to the little Western girl, whose companion among the odorous pine chips was Lucy Baker Woodwell, youngest daughter of the master builder.

It was during this visit that Edward Wells inaugurated a long series of benefactions to his youngest sister, by the gift of the mahogany framed mirror and great astral lamp with prismatic pendants, which constituted the most artistic decorations of the simple parlor for many years. It was his plan to persuade this sister to return with him to his Western home; but finding her married, this scheme was abandoned.

The third and fourth visits to Newburyport were

made in the summers of 1856 and 1858. In the former year the head of the family was accompanied by wife, sister-in-law, and three surviving children, while in the latter the family party was increased numerically by the addition of a tiny but very important member, the last child, born in the June of 1857. From 1858 Edward Wells journeyed eastward every summer, with the exception of two, until his death in 1892, his party increasing to sixteen and eighteen as children were given to his married sons and daughter. The heated term was passed at some resort on the Massachusetts or New Hampshire shore, and the month of September in Boston, where his youngest sister had removed with her family in 1859; while some portion of the holiday was invariably spent in the birth town, which was always regarded by her wandering son with affectionate interest. These annual returns to the sea were the only occasions of recreation in the life of a very busy man; for though he retired from active business when he was but little over fifty years old, his transactions in real estate, and interest in corporations and institutions, called for ever increasing mental activity. The salt air was a stimulant and

"In the sea waves he would drown the restless pack
Of duties, claims, and needs that barked upon his track."



RYE BEACH, N. H.

KATE WELLS	EDWARD WELLS	MRS. MORGAN
EDW. C. WELLS	J. RUSSELL WELLS	GEN'L MORGAN
HARRIET E. WELLS	MRS. G. WELLS	C. LAWRENCE WELLS



Though successful in multiplying into a fortune the silver dollar which constituted his capital when he disembarked at Quincy in 1834, his energies were not all given to personal gain.

He was a leading spirit in all projects for the advancement of the city of his adoption, which he saw develop from a town of five hundred inhabitants into a large and flourishing center, of trade. For many years he was greatly interested in procuring railroad connections, and became personally acquainted with the prominent railroad men of the country. He succeeded in getting the Pennsylvania Central to agree to come to Quincy; but before the purpose could crystallize into action success became failure through the secret sale of the Quincy and Warsaw road, by means of which the connection was to be made. Still he did not lose heart, nor did he become discouraged when negotiations for connection with the Baltimore and Ohio road came to naught; but spurred by failure, and broadened by contact with men of wide experience, took up the work again with a zeal that compelled success. He was the originator and principal factor in the passing of the bill through Congress for the building of the railroad bridge across the Mississippi at Quincy in 1864, spending weeks in Washington while engaged in this work. In the drafting of this bill he insisted on a clause, which

was original with him, that all roads should have right of way over the approaches to bridges, and thus prevented for all time excessive tollage or monopoly. He was at one time president of the Quincy and Warsaw Railroad Company, and was on terms of intimacy and influence with J. L. Joy, of the Wabash Railway, for many years.

Though all his life intensely interested in the political affairs of city, state and nation, the subject of this sketch always resolutely refused political office. One term as alderman from the third ward is his meager record. But his counsel was sought by men who held office, as well as by men who walked the quiet path of private life. Well acquainted with Lincoln, Douglas, O. H. Browning, W. A. Richardson, Richard Yates, John A. Logan, General Sherman, and many others of world wide reputation, he had large influence in both state and national capitals, which was used effectively but quietly, and without making himself so prominent as to antagonize others. He sought no reward, remaining silent when others appropriated credit that belonged to him. From the formation of the party he was an uncompromising Republican, as he had been for years a subscriber to the principles on which it was founded. In war time he was intensely loyal, sending two substitutes to the field, and spending money freely in the cause.



RYE BEACH, N. H.

GEN'L M. ROAN	MRS. T. WELLS	EDW. WELLS	EDW. C. WELLS
J. RUSSELL WELLS	MRS. MORGAN	MRS. G. WELLS	FRANK WELLS
KATE WELLS	KATE G. WELLS	MRS. EDW. WELLS	
ELFORD G. WELLS	HARRIET E. WELLS	DOROTHY G. WELLS	C. LAWRENCE WELLS

Director of the First National Bank of Quincy for a long period, his wise counsels, founded on his accurate knowledge of the finances of that institution, made it a paying bank as long as he was in office. He was a stockholder in the Quincy gas works, Newcomb Hotel Company, Quincy Savings Bank, Library Association, director of the Vandiver Corn Planter Company, which he helped to organize, and officially connected with many other business, improvement, and charity organizations of the city.

On the sixteenth of May, 1892, in the hour preceding the dawn, Edward Wells suddenly passed away. The fifteenth, his last day on earth, was Sunday. As was his custom he went to church in the morning, apparently in his usual health and spirits. In his genial way he laughed and chatted with church friends and acquaintances on the way home, and spent the afternoon and evening quietly and comfortably with his family. Retiring later than was his custom he slept quietly till one o'clock, when he awoke complaining of a pain in his chest. The hastily summoned physician pronounced the attack congestion of the lungs, and recognized its fatal character as soon as he saw the patient. In two hours it was all over.

A little granddaughter, one week later, writes, "Grandpa died a week ago to-morrow, but I can-

not think of him as dead. Every little while I find myself thinking he will come in soon. Every time I go into the sitting-room in the evening I think I may find him sitting in his easy chair. Grandpa died so suddenly. When I went to bed last Sunday night he was perfectly well. The first thing I heard in the morning was that he was dead. None of us saw him after he died until he was put in his coffin. Then we all went in to see him. He looked so natural. You know he used to sleep so much in his chair. In his coffin he looked just like he did when asleep in his chair."

A year later the same child writes, "It is just a year ago to-day since grandpa died. To-day is a good deal like the day he died, warm and sunny. I don't believe I ever shall forget a single thing that happened that day. I was just out of bed and dressing when Aunt Harriet came into my room, and I asked her who it was walking up and down the hall. She said it was Uncle George, and then I wanted to know how he happened down to our house so early in the morning. I would not believe it at first, grandpa was so well the day before."

A great shock to the child, it was inexpressibly greater to her elders, especially to the wife of fifty-five years, who with her natural reticence went about silently, but expressing in her face her loneliness and grief. The entire community felt the



RYE BEACH, N. H.

MR. G. B. BELL
 MR. C. B. BELL
 MR. B. B. BELL
 MR. B. B. BELL

MR. B. B. BELL
 MR. B. B. BELL
 MR. B. B. BELL
 MR. B. B. BELL

MR. B. B. BELL
 MR. B. B. BELL
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 MR. B. B. BELL

J. ROBERT WELLS

Photo 186



loss, particularly the few remaining pioneers who had known and admired Edward Wells for fifty-eight years. Sketches of his life and appreciative words appeared in the daily papers, the following constituting the closing paragraph in an editorial in the Quincy Whig:

“Mr. Wells was a man of fine presence, kindly manners, and so active and interested in the details of the world’s life that although he had nearly touched four score years he never impressed one as an old man. He was active in his church—the Unitarian—of which in this city he was a pioneer member, active in politics, attending even the primary meetings of his party—the Republican—as regularly as when it first came into existence, keenly alive to everything that affected the credit, the good name, or the prosperity of the city in which he had lived so long, and maintaining his social interests to a degree that made him a congenial companion to young and old alike. A man of unblemished integrity, a good citizen, a prudent and sagacious adviser, a firm and faithful friend, his wide contact with men in these relations will make him widely missed, but nowhere will he be so sorely missed as in the home which was, after all, the chief object of his affections and devotion.”

Although devoted heart and soul to whatever business he had in hand, Edward Wells was never

too busy to extend help where distress came under his observation or to his knowledge. His skill in untangling difficulties and his tireless energy in overcoming them, his sympathy and advice, as well as his purse, were never withheld where need was manifested. And his genial and generous air invited the confidence even of strangers. The writer recalls when traveling in his company, and making a railroad connection by means of a ferry boat across a great river, that a woman with a child in her arms, and a distressful countenance, looking at him as he hurried into the boat, and discerning helpfulness in his face, cried out, "Sir, what shall I do? I saw the truckman just now take my baggage along the wharf to the boat that connects with the other train. Our boat will start in a moment, and I cannot leave my child." Putting his bags into the hands of his companions, and asking the woman for her checks, Edward Wells ran along the wharf to the truckman, who had been pointed out to him, gave him the checks with a few sharp words, and followed the returning trunks into the boat just as it swung from its moorings. Many such helpful acts were dropped like flowers from his hands as he walked the path of life.

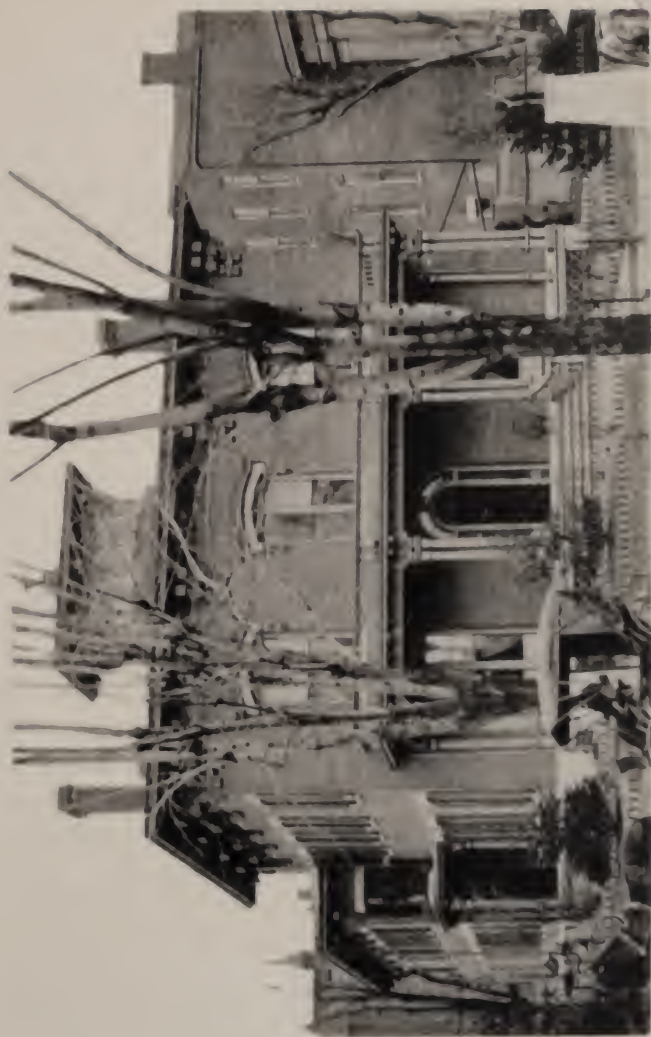
He never lost his interest in his brothers and sisters, and nephews and nieces, though separated from them by hundreds of miles of plain and moun-

tain. Two brothers and a nephew were in turn summoned to Quincy that they might have a broader business outlook, and three nieces and a sister that they might benefit by temporary change of climate and surroundings. It was his pleasant custom to invite first one niece and then another to spend a portion of the heated term in the great hotel by the sea where he and his family were domiciled for the season. The writer recalls many such outings, among them two wonderful trips to Saratoga and two others to the White Mountains, when the best of everything fell into her hands and heart. His gifts to his family connections, especially in times of emergency, were as liberal and generous as was his loving interest in all that concerned them.

The funeral was held on the third day. The Quincy *Whig* thus refers to it: "A very large concourse of people assembled to pay a last tribute of respect to the memory of the late Edward Wells. The funeral services were held at the family residence, 421 Jersey Street, at three o'clock yesterday afternoon. Nearly all the older residents of the city were present, pioneers who with Mr. Wells endured the hardships of early days, and representative business men who have joined with him in making Quincy a prosperous and progressive city. The younger people were there, those who have learned useful and valuable lessons from his upright,

successful life. It was a gathering of all classes of the community, a memorable occasion, marking the last scene in the life drama of one of the few remaining pioneers. The services, conducted by the Rev. S. H. Bradley of the Unitarian Church, were brief and devoid of all semblance of display. The pall-bearers were Messrs. Julius Kespohl, D. E. Lynds, T. M. Rogers, Dr. McMahon, H. P. Walton, and J. L. Bert." The burial was in Woodland Cemetery, a beautiful spot on the bluff overlooking the Mississippi, where his children were buried. In due time, a granite sarcophagus of fine workmanship, inscribed simply with his name, was erected over his remains; but his grander monument endures in the structures and institutions of the city he helped to develop, and in the lives of the people who came in contact with his strong and generous personality.

Mary Wells survived her husband but a year and ten months. In the second November after his death, she journeyed over the familiar road to Boston for the last time. Conceiving it to be her duty to visit the sister-in-law who had always been a special object of her husband's affection, and who was recovering from a long and dangerous illness, she forced herself to take the journey never before attempted except under her husband's protection. She said again and again, "I never could have



421 JERSEY ST., QUINCY, ILL., 1860

PHOTO 1876

come, Lucy, except to see you, and assure myself that you were getting well." It seemed as if she were fulfilling some unexpressed desire of the dead. Accompanied by her younger daughter, she spent four weeks in Boston, making frequent trips to East Boston, where in the simple home of her sister-in-law, she seemed to take great comfort.

To the sister-in-law and her family it was a beautiful visit. The frequent cosy tea drinkings in the cold November afternoons, seemed to the writer repeated celebrations of her mother's recovery, and the Thanksgiving Day feast, the culmination of the series of festivities. The genial presence of Edward Wells was sorely missed from these gatherings, but thoughts of the absent served rather to soften than sadden the hearts of those present. In the light of what happened in the following March, this visit seemed to have been intended as a gentle and generous farewell. Losses and crosses were seldom discussed. Pleasant words, kind deeds, generous gifts were the order of the day. The natural reticence, sometimes amounting to coldness of manner, that had characterized Mary Wells, gave way to a sort of shy demonstrativeness, expressing itself in loving words and even caresses.

On the twenty-seventh of March, 1894, Mary Wells was suddenly called from earth. For several years she had suspected heart trouble, but eminent

specialists, as well as family physician, had assured her friends that her suspicions were unfounded. On the morning of the twenty-seventh, she arose at the usual hour and breakfasted with the family, apparently in her usual health, except that she had mentioned to the seamstress that she was suffering from a slight pressure on her chest. At ten o'clock her elder daughter, calling to her and receiving no reply, went in search of her, and found her lifeless in an upper room. Only ten minutes earlier her daughter had seen and spoken with her. Her death, which must have been instantaneous and painless, was the result of heart failure. Thus for the third time in less than two years, and the second within a month, the family were called to a baptism of sorrow; for, but two weeks before, the elder daughter had brought the remains of her beloved husband to her father's house and buried them in Woodland Cemetery.

Mary Wells was distinctively a home woman. To her immediate family, and a narrow circle of relatives and friends, she gave herself with devotion. She was interested in what was going on in the world, and in her home nook informed herself of affairs, and gave utterance to very decided opinions concerning them. Her charities, which were large, were dispensed without ostentation, as were those of her husband; and that she saw the woes

and needs of humanity even more clearly than he did, was evidenced by the fact that she frequently told him where to bestow his bounty. Too proud to disclose the need of sympathy, she hid personal loss and sorrow as well as personal gain and joy, under a quiet exterior, giving the careless observer the impression that she lacked in sensibility. Only those who knew her best ever measured the depths of her feeling. The writer can testify that she enjoyed giving good things to others. She was shy of thanks, but took delight in seeing her gifts used and appreciated. She helped to build the structure of her husband's prosperity by self denial and faithful administration of home affairs. One of the organizers of the Unitarian Church in Quincy, she was for nearly sixty years quietly active in promoting its interests and extending its influence. Her creed, like that of her church, was to be sincere and do good.

The writer would not close this chapter, which records her appreciation of Edward and Mary Wells, without reference to Harriet Morgan, the sister whose life was so closely bound up with theirs. Harriet Evans, born in Gloucester, November 3, 1823, was fourteen years old at the time of her sister's marriage, and from the birth of the first child, friend and helper in every family emergency.

In 1855 her mother died, a victim of cholera, and soon afterward Harriet went to reside in her sister's family. From that time she was a second mother to the children of the house, sharing with their mother their joys, their sorrows, and the burden of their rearing and training. From infancy her ministrations were as acceptable to the children, not only on ordinary occasions, but in times of trouble, pain, and sickness, as those of their mother.

In 1856 and 1858 she made her first and second journeys to Massachusetts with Edward and Mary Wells. In 1859 she became the wife of James D. Morgan. Her marriage did not separate her in any sense from her sister, the two families continuing to reside under one roof, and Harriet Morgan giving of her love and service as freely as Harriet Evans had done. General Morgan died in the fall of 1896.

The Wells home circle had narrowed till only the younger daughter and Harriet Morgan were the lonely occupants of the great house at 421 Jersey Street. This house had sheltered the family of Edward Wells for thirty-six years. Its surroundings, all that could be desired at the time of its purchase, had undergone a change. Friends and neighbors had moved out into the newer residential quarter of the town. Factories had taken the place



421 JERSEY ST. (PARLOR)

Photo 1890



of dwelling houses, and a smoke-laden atmosphere left its mark wherever it penetrated. The great house with its twenty-two rooms was not a suitable place of residence for the two women alone left of the family. The two sons had married many years before and settled, the elder in his native town, the younger in Chicago, in beautiful homes of their own. In 1881 James Russell Smith, the elder daughter's husband, had opened up a large wheat farm in Dakota, but his winters were spent in the hospitable old homestead until his death in 1894. His widow had made a new home for her children. Death, within a period of four years had called Edward and Mary Wells, James Russell Smith, and General Morgan. The old house was quiet and lonely.

Taking a house on Vermont Street next her brother's residence, Kate Wells with characteristic energy set about making a new home for Harriet Morgan and herself. The breaking up of the old home was sad work. The great rooms and halls were thronged with memories.

"There groups of merry children played,
There youths and maidens dreaming strayed;
From that chamber clothed in white
The bride came forth on her wedding night;
There, in that silent room below,
The dead lay in his shroud of snow."

Thoughts such as these attended the dismantlement of the familiar rooms. But the work went steadily on, and the change of residence was made in the June of 1897. Harriet Morgan's health had failed perceptibly all winter and spring, and it was decided that a summer outing on the Atlantic coast, which was the annual custom of the Wells family, would stimulate the failing strength. A breezy point on the Maine shore was selected. After the journey, and settlement in their chosen quarters, Kate Wells wrote, "This is a beautiful spot. The hotel stands on a point of land that runs right out into the water. The bay with Rockland in the distance is on the south of us, the river with its islands and mountains on the north, the Camden Mountain in the distance to the west, and the open sea to the east. There is hardly an hour of the day when boats of all kinds cannot be seen going and coming on the river. The Boston and Bangor steamers pass by morning and evening, stopping at Rockland, two miles from this point, ere they disappear among the hills." Kate and her Aunt Harriet spent every afternoon in their rooms, from the windows of which all the glittering beauty of the river could be enjoyed, the invalid resting, and the faithful niece alternately reading aloud and musing on the beauty and mystery of the passing ships.

Bay Point was an ideal spot, but its air was too

bracing and its temperature too low for the comfort of the invalid, and a change was made to Rye Beach, New Hampshire, the favorite summer resort of Edward Wells. But the tonic of the sea could not restore the lost vitality of the sufferer, and early in September she was taken home. She lingered two months, the object of the untiring devotion of her loving nephews and nieces, and then slipped quietly, and without great pain, out of the beautiful home in which her niece had hoped to make her comfortable for many years. The love her nephews and nieces bore her could not have been more tenderly expressed than in the words of her niece Ella, "Our second mother has left us." The following brief sketch appeared in the Quincy papers of November 3, 1897:

Mrs. Harriet Morgan, widow of the late General James D. Morgan, died at her home on East Vermont Street on the afternoon of Tuesday, the day which completed her seventy-fourth year. Mrs. Morgan was a native of Gloucester, Mass., the daughter of the late Captain Robert Evans, she and her only sister, the late Mrs. Edward Wells, coming here with her parents in 1836. She had therefore been a resident of Quincy for more than sixty years, and until the death of Mrs. Wells the two sisters had been almost continuously sheltered by the same

roof. Her marriage to General Morgan took place in 1859.

She was a woman of strong character, self-poised, refined, cultivated—a gentlewoman—so fresh in her sympathies and interests that she was always a favorite among those much younger than herself. She was devoted to the Unitarian Church, to which she was bound by tradition and conviction, and the church owes much to her steadfastness and generosity; but her good works were not bounded by denominational lines. Her quiet personal courage and endurance were never more apparent than during the illness, to which death came at last a peaceful, painless ending. Though her malady was a lingering and sometimes painful one, those about her would scarcely have suspected from her speech or manner that her failing strength was from any other cause than the natural decline of years.

The funeral services, conducted by the Rev. T. J. Horner, were held at her late residence Friday afternoon. About the rooms, and appropriately covering the casket of the peaceful, sweet-faced sleeper, was a profusion of the choicest and most beautiful flowers. Words of appreciative remembrance were spoken, favorite hymns were sung by the choir of the Unitarian Church, and kindred hands bore her to her final rest beside her husband in Woodland Cemetery.



MRS. JAMES D. MORGAN
(HARRIET EVANS)

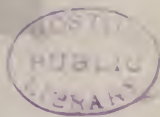


PHOTO 1896

CHAPTER XX

CHILDREN OF EDWARD AND MARY WELLS

Eliza Ann, born in Quincy, Illinois, July 2, 1838, died in Quincy, April 29, 1839.

Mary Eliza, born in Quincy, March 22, 1840, died in Quincy, September 20, 1854.

Edward, born in Quincy, December 21, 1841, died in Quincy, November 3, 1849.

Harriet, born in Quincy, February 28, 1844, died in Quincy, April 14, 1846.

George Wells was born in Quincy, Illinois, on the twenty-second of August 1846. He attended private schools in his native town till he was thirteen years old, when he was placed in a school in Kingston, Massachusetts.

At the age of sixteen he entered his father's pork packing establishment, continuing in this business till 1879. For eight years of this period, from 1869 to 1876, he was engaged during the summer

months in the manufacture of canned good and pickles. From 1880 to 1886 he was in the grocery business, and from 1886 to the present time, has been senior member of the firm of Wells & Adams, Mortgage Bankers.

He went abroad in June, 1865, and enjoyed fifteen months of travel in the British Isles and on the Continent. On the twenty-ninth of August, 1869, in New York, he married Sarah Jane, only daughter of Dr. Edward G. Castle of Quincy, who has borne him eight children. Like his father, he sends his sons to Massachusetts schools, and with his family spends the summer months on the New England coast.

He is trustee of the Anna Brown Home for the Aged, trustee, secretary, and treasurer of Woodland Home for the Friendless and Orphans, and has been Master of Quincy Lodge A. F. and A. M., and Eminent Commander of El-Aksa Commandery of Knights Templar. He inherits his father's interest for the Republican party, as well as his aversion to holding political office.

CHILDREN OF GEORGE AND SARAH J. WELLS

Edward Castle Wells, born on the twenty-seventh of June, 1871, was sent to a private school in Massachusetts at the age of fourteen years, where he continued till he entered the Massachusetts In-



MR. AND MRS. GEORGE WELLS
[SARAH J. CASTLE]



Photo 1894

stitute of Technology with the class of 1892. He completed the course in Mechanical Engineering and received his degree before he had reached his twenty-first birthday. On the first of January, 1895, he entered his father's office, and on the seventeenth of the following October married Mary Caroline Brookings of Boston. On the eleventh of July, 1896, his little daughter, Jeannette Brookings Wells, was born. He is now a member of the firm of Wells & Adams.

On the eleventh of September, 1872, twin boys, Albert George and James Russell, were born. Albert George died in infancy. James Russell, from his fourteenth year, attended private schools in Massachusetts, preparing for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology at Dummer Academy, Byfield, from which ancient and famous seminary of learning he graduated in the summer of 1891. He entered the Institute with the class of 1895, making choice of the course in architecture; but developing a taste for drawing, he withdrew in the second year and entered the Boston Art School, where for two years he did faithful and creditable work in decorative design. After a summer abroad and a year spent in designing for Flagg & Warnock, manufacturers of ornamental windows, in Boston, he returned to his home in Quincy, Illinois, to enter the employment of Wells & Adams.

On the eighth of November, 1898, he married Henrietta Rosamond Eaton, of Kenosha, Wisconsin. The following notice appeared in the *Quincy Optic*:

Last Tuesday evening at the home of Mr. J. K. Boyeson, 5125 Kimbark Avenue, Chicago, Mr. J. Russell Wells and Miss Henrietta R. Eaton were married by the Rev. Dr. Griffith, chaplain of Kemper Hall, Kenosha, Wisconsin. After an Eastern trip of several weeks Mr. and Mrs. Wells will occupy a pretty home at 2219 Main Street, Quincy. The bride is a charming and beautiful girl, with decided talent as an artist and musician. Mr. Wells is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Wells, and is a young gentleman of fine business and social acquirements, well worthy of his good fortune.

Willie George and Frank Harrison, fourth and fifth sons of George and Sarah J. Wells, born respectively December 4, 1873, and June 21, 1875, died in infancy. Charles Lawrence, the sixth son, was born on the nineteenth of January, 1883, and the only daughter, Harriet Evans, and a seventh son, twins, were born July 28, 1884. The boy lived but a few months.

Frank Wells was born in Quincy, Illinois, on the twenty-eighth of March, 1849. He attended private schools in the city of his birth till 1860, when he was sent to Kingston, Massachusetts, and

with his brother became a pupil in Dr. Ellis's boarding school for boys. At the age of seventeen he entered the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he remained three years, and then returned to Quincy to work for the Vandiver Corn Planter Company. The next year he entered the grocery store of Wheeler, Andrews & Co. as clerk, but in the fall of 1871 was again employed by the Corn Planter Company.

Early in 1872 he bought out the business of Wheeler, Andrews & Co., forming a partnership with George Castle, under the firm name of Wells & Castle; but five years later he sold out and went to Colorado to investigate mining and sheep raising. On his return, in September, 1878, he bought into the firm of G. C. Cook & Co., wholesale grocers of Chicago, one of the oldest establishments in the city, and continued in this business, under the firm name of Cook, Phillips & Wells, till 1887, when he established himself as real estate and mortgage broker on La Salle Street.

On the first of January, 1879, he married Alice Fabian, only daughter of Frederick S. Giddings, then of Quincy, now of Madison, Wisconsin, by whom he has had two sons and three daughters.

Frank Wells is one of the promoters and directors of the Inland Steel Company, Chicago Heights, Illinois, and of the Inland Iron and Forge

Company, East Chicago, Indiana. He is a member of the Hamilton, Douglas, and Union League Clubs, having served the first named as vice-president.

Politically he has been a member of the Central Council of the Civic Federation of Chicago and director of the Municipal Voters' League, working unweariedly in the interests of municipal reform. Always declining nomination to office, he has enthusiastically supported the candidates of the League, giving freely of his substance and influence. It is very much to be regretted that ill health compelled his withdrawal from this good work.

For three terms he was president of the Northwestern Association of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and was at one time an honored trustee of Saint Paul's Universalist Church, and a member of the Chicago Art Institute. He usually spends some portion of the summer on the Massachusetts or New Hampshire shore.

CHILDREN OF FRANK AND ALICE GIDDINGS WELLS.

Clifford Giddings Wells, born in Chicago, December 8, 1879.

Kate Giddings Wells, born in Chicago, October 11, 1882.



MR. AND MRS. FRANK WELLS
(ALICE F. GIDDINGS)

PHOTO 1899

Frederick Giddings Wells, born in Chicago, July 10, 1884, and died January 17, 1886.

Dorothy Giddings Wells, born in Chicago, January 22, 1887.

Elizabeth Giddings Wells, born in Chicago, December 31, 1892.

Clifford Giddings Wells entered Harvard College with the class of 1902.

Ella Wells, born in Quincy, Illinois, on the tenth of November, 1852, was educated in the private schools of that city, and on the eighteenth of January, 1877, became the wife of James Russell Smith of Quincy. Mr. Smith was born near Jacksonville, Illinois, February 10, 1847. He enlisted as drummer boy in the Union army early in 1862, and served until the close of the war, acting on postal service for some time at General Whittaker's headquarters. Until after his marriage he was manager of the Western Union Telegraph office in Quincy. A man of rare executive ability and most excellent judgment he enjoyed the confidence of the general manager to the highest degree and commanded the respect and admiration of the patrons of the office.

In the fall of 1881 he went to North Dakota and opened a large wheat farm south of Wheatland. He was successful, not only in his business but in winning the respect and confidence of a large circle

of friends. He became prominently identified with the Republican party of the state, was several times honored with an appointment on the governor's staff, and in the election previous to his death, was the choice of a large number for United States senator. It was his custom to spend the four winter months in Quincy, returning to his farm in early spring. In 1893 he made arrangements to dispose of his large farming interests, intending to settle permanently in one of the business centers of North Dakota. In February, 1894, he left Quincy, where, as usual, he had been passing the cold season, to attend a meeting of the State Asylum board of North Dakota, of which he was a member.

At the Occidental Hotel in Caselton he was stricken with pneumonia. His wife was summoned from Quincy, and later George Wells and the family physician, but the tireless care of friends and the skill of the profession were alike powerless to save him. He passed away on the ninth of March, 1894, in his forty-seventh year, leaving two children to the care of their sorrowing mother. He was a man of fine presence, genial, companionable, of exemplary habits, and a ready thinker and speaker. A bright future lay before him.

Myra Wells Smith was born in Quincy on the twenty-sixth of October, 1877, and Arthur Morgan Smith on the fifteenth of June, 1879.

In the fall succeeding their father's death these children were placed in schools at Dana Hall, Wellesley, Massachusetts, and Cheltenham Military Academy, Ogontz, Pennsylvania, respectively. The daughter graduated with honors from Dana Hall, Wellesley, in the summer of 1897, but owing to her mother's failing health, withdrew her application for admission to Wellesley College, to return to Quincy and remain the companion of her mother as long as she lived. The son, after two years at Ogontz and two at Phillips Academy, Andover, Massachusetts, entered Harvard University with the class of 1902.

Ella Wells Smith died on the tenth of May, 1899. A valvular heart trouble, from which she had suffered for many years, and which was aggravated by sorrow, was the cause of a gradual failure of her powers and, from the fall of 1898, a rapid decline. In April some gain in strength enabled her to get out into the spring sunshine, giving her friends hope that she would linger with them at least through the summer, but May brought a return of all the distressing conditions. The end came in the early evening of Wednesday, the tenth of May. From the Sunday preceding she gave no sign of recognition, and was restless and apparently in great distress, but the last moments were without struggle—a peaceful slipping away from the sorrow

and pain of earth. She was sixth of the family that had occupied the old home on Jersey Street to pass on to the higher life in a little less than seven years.

Ella Wells Smith inherited both the singular reserve and generous impulses of her mother. After the death of her husband, the tendency to hide what was in her heart was in a measure overcome by an intense desire to disclose to her friends the affection with which she regarded them; and her appreciation of every service rendered her at the time of her great sorrow was expressed on every fitting occasion by acts of loving generosity. She was a ready and exceedingly interesting letter writer. Her letters to the writer of these pages, especially after she knew that life for her was drawing to a close, contained expressions of affection and words of undeserved praise, with cheerful accounts of what was going on at home, but never a word of her failing health. It seemed to be her wish to gratify the desire of far away friends to know about the members of the family, but as far as possible to spare them anxiety. She refrained from mentioning the fact of her approaching end except to a friend of her girlhood, to whom she said she was not afraid to die, but that it was distressing to find herself unable to finish tasks she had ventured to begin.

From girlhood she was interested in literary studies, and in time became an active member of the



MR. AND MRS. JAMES R. SMITH
(ELLA WELLS)



PHOTO 1890

literary societies of her native town, contributing her share of essays to the general work—productions of considerable merit. In her beautiful girlhood and young womanhood she went frequently into society, attracting by reason of her gentle ways as well as her beauty. As she grew older her interests centered in her home, her church, and institutions and individuals needing help.

On the death of her husband Ella Wells Smith did not yield to the desire to hide herself with her sorrow, but gave her best energies to planning for her children and the management of her business affairs so bravely and determinedly as to astonish the brother who became her faithful business counselor. This unselfish response to the call of duty was the more to be commended in her, because she had been completely sheltered in her husband's care. But her activities were not confined to her private affairs. In time she renewed her interest in church affairs and philanthropic work, giving not only of her means, but time and strength with a noble generosity, and so unostentatiously as to win the love as well as gratitude of the receiver. Her work as treasurer of Blessing Hospital severely taxed her failing strength. The *Quincy Whig* of May 14th referred to her life and character as follows:

Mrs. Ella Wells Smith, eldest daughter of the

late Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wells, and widow of the late James Russell Smith, died at her residence, 1682 Hampshire Street, Wednesday evening, after suffering for years from a frequently disabling chronic ailment and for several weeks past from acute resulting illness.

Mrs. Smith was born in this city November 10, 1852, and with the exception of some years on her husband's farm in North Dakota, during which their winters were spent here, her home had always been in Quincy.

Mrs. Smith was a refined, cultivated woman, a lover of art in all its forms, and before the strings of her favorite instrument, the piano, were silenced by ill health and bereavement, was known as an accomplished musician. She had a high sense of duty, which found expression in devotion to her family and to her church—the Unitarian—and in philanthropic and charitable work. She was deeply interested in Blessing Hospital, of which she was treasurer and a generous benefactor, but her ministrations reached also the private homes of suffering, taking on an added value from the considerateness which reflected the singular modesty and reserve of her nature.

Besides her two children—Miss Myra, who is at home, and Arthur M., who is at Harvard—she leaves two brothers, Mr. George Wells of this city,



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM R. LOCKWOOD
(KATE WELLS)



Photo 1899

and Mr. Frank Wells of Chicago, and one sister, Mrs. W. R. Lockwood of 1426 Vermont Street. The funeral will take place at the family home this Saturday afternoon, at three o'clock.

Kate Wells, born in Quincy on the twenty-second of June, 1857, became the wife of William Russell Lockwood, October 26, 1898. The *Quincy Optic* thus referred to the wedding :

On Wednesday evening at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. George Wells, their sister, Miss Kate Wells, was married to Mr. William R. Lockwood by the Rev. T. J. Horner. The wedding was quiet and simple, but very elegant and beautiful. Superb American Beauties and other choice roses were in large jars and vases about the room, with palms and ferns as a background. As the Lohengrin wedding march was played by Mrs. Edward C. Wells and Miss Clara Burge on violin and piano, the bride entered on the arm of Mr. George Wells and passed into the back parlor where Mr. Lockwood and Mr. Horner awaited her coming. Miss Myra Wells Smith held her flowers while the ring ceremony was performed.

The bride was richly gowned in ivory white satin en traine, with sleeves and trimmings of duchesse lace, and carried pink roses. Miss Smith wore liberty satin and ruffles of chiffon. After warm

greetings to the new made husband and wife the family party enjoyed some delightful music from Mrs. Edward Wells, Miss Burge and Miss Harriet Wells, and received each a lovely pink rose from the gracious bride, who thus shared her bouquet with the company. In the dining-room where an elegant wedding supper was served, a large vase of long stemmed pink roses graced the center of the table which was lighted with candles in silver candelabra.

The bride is the youngest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wells; a cultivated, self-poised and charming woman, she is admired in society and held in close friendship by those who best know her unselfish and lovely qualities. Mr. Lockwood is widely known as a polished gentleman, a successful man of business and a general favorite and leader in social affairs. They took the midnight train for St. Louis on their way to Washington and other Eastern cities, where they will remain for several weeks. After the first of December they will be at home at 1426 Vermont Street.

